SPORTS REVIEW
February 1983
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Wrestling

RIC FLAIR: "I'LL DIE BEFORE I LET HARLEY RACE BECOME A SEVEN-TIME CHAMPION!"

Pedro Morales vs. Buddy Rose: AN UNEXPECTED EXPLOSION ROCKS THE GARDEN

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when I planned to **retire before**

this is the business that made it possible

Starting with borrowed money, Duraclean gave me the opportunity for financial security... In eight years I sold out at a profit and retired.

"Not until I was forty did I make up my mind that I was going to retire before ten years had passed. I knew I couldn't do it on a salary, no matter how good. I knew I couldn't do it working for others. It was perfectly obvious to me that I had to start a business of my own. But that posed a problem. What kind of business? Most of my money was tied up. Temporarily I was broke. But, when I found the business I wanted I was able to start it for a small amount of borrowed money.

"To pyramid this investment into retirement in less than ten years seems like magic, but in my opinion any man in good health who has the same ambition and drive that motivated me, could achieve such a goal. Let me give you a little history.

"I finished high school at the age of 18 and got a job as a shipping clerk. My next job was butchering at a plant that processed boneless beef. Couldn't see much future there. Next, I got a job as a Greyhound Bus Driver. The money was good. The work was pleasant, but I couldn't see it as leading to retirement. Finally I took the plunge and went into business for myself.

"I managed to raise enough money with my savings to invest in a combination motel, restaurant, grocery, and service station. It didn't take long to get my eyes opened. In order to keep that business going my wife and I worked from dawn to dusk, 20 hours a day, seven days a week. Putting in all those hours didn't match my idea of independence and it gave me no time for my favorite sport—golf! Finally we both agreed that I should look for something else.

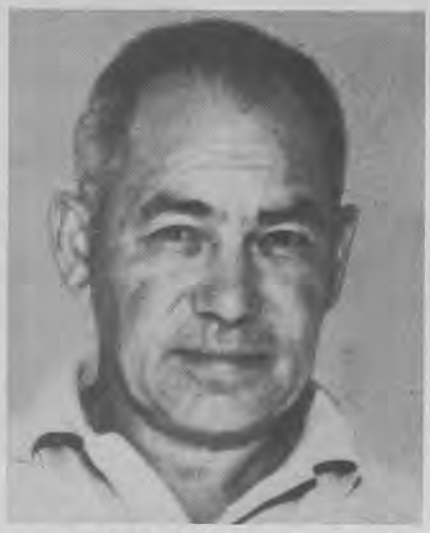
"I found it. Not right away. I investigated a lot of businesses offered as franchises. I felt that I wanted the guidance of an experienced company—wanted to have the benefit of the plans that had brought success to others, plus the benefit of running my own business under an established name that had national recognition.

"Most of the franchises offered were too costly for me. Temporarily all my capital was frozen in the motel. But I found that the Duraclean franchise offered me exactly what I had been looking for.

"I could start for a small amount. (Today, only $3,488 starts a Duraclean dealership, and the company will finance the balance of the total $11,588 cash investment.) I could work it as a one-man business to start, and operate from my home. No office or shop or other overhead, no salaries to pay. Equipment would fit in my car trunk. (I bought the truck later, out of profits). Best of all, there was no ceiling on my earnings. I could build a business as

fifty

a true story
by John B. Haikey



big as my ambition and energy dictated. I could put on as many men as I needed to cover any volume. I could make a profit on every man working for me. And I could build little by little, or as fast as I wished.

"So, I started. I took the wonderful training furnished by the company. When I was ready I followed the simple plan outlined in the training. During the first period I did all the service work myself. By doing it myself, I could make much more per hour than I had ever made on a salary. Later, I would hire men, train them, pay them well, and still make an hourly profit on their time that made my idea of retirement possible —I had joined the country club and now I could play golf whenever I wished.

"What is this wonderful business? It's Duraclean. And what is Duraclean? It's an improved, space-age process for cleaning upholstered furniture, rugs and tacked down carpets. It not only cleans but it enlivens and sparkles up the colors. It does not wear down the fiber or drive dirt into the base of the rug as machine scrubbing does. Instead it *lifts out* the dirt by means of an absorbent dry foam.

"Furniture dealers and department stores refer their customers to the Duraclean Specialist. Insurance men say Duraclean can save them money on fire claims. Hotels, motels, specialty shops and big stores make annual contracts for keeping their carpets and furniture fresh and clean.

"Well, that's the business I was able to start with such a small investment. That's the business I built up over a period of eight years. And, that's the business I sold out at a substantial profit before I was fifty."

Would you like to taste the freedom and independence enjoyed by Mr. Haikey? You can. Let us send you the facts. Mail the coupon, and you'll receive all the details, absolutely without obligation. No salesman will ever call on you. When you receive our illustrated booklet, you'll learn how we show you STEP BY STEP how to get customers; and how to have your customers get you more customers from their recommendations. This is an opportunity for a career you will enjoy far more than a routine job. You make many friends who appreciate your quality services.

With no obligation, we'll mail you a 32-page booklet explaining the business. Then you, and you alone, in the privacy of your home, can decide. Don't delay. Get the facts before your location is taken by someone else. Mail the coupon, now.

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WITHOUT OBLIGATION mail letter and 32-page illustrated booklet explaining how I can increase my income and family security with a Duraclean Dealership. No salesman is to call on me.

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SPORTS REVIEW

Wrestling

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A brutal display of wrestling savagery

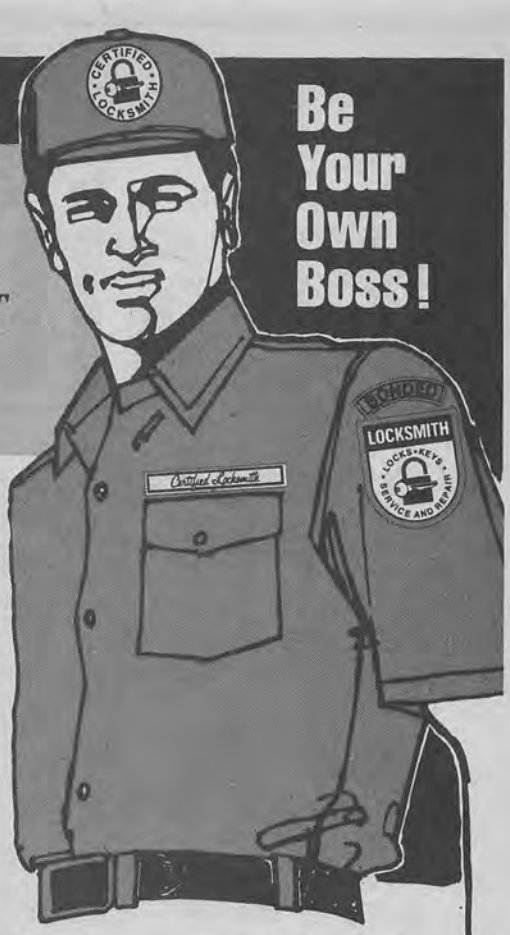
COVER PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROMER, BILL APTER, & THEO EHRET

Start your own money making business!

Make up to $12.50 an hour—even while learning!

Train FAST at home!

Get into this booming high-profit business that's Easy to learn—Easy to do—Easy on You!



Never before have money-making opportunities been so great for qualified Locksmiths. Now lucrative regular lock and key business has multiplied a thousandfold as millions seek more protection against zooming crime. Yet there's only one Locksmith for every 17,000 people!

Start Collecting CASH PROFITS Right Away

You're "in business" ready to earn $5 to $12.50 an hour a few days after you begin Foley - Belsaw's shortcut training. Take advantage of today's unprecedented opportunities in locksmithing for year - round EXTRA INCOME in spare time — or fulltime in a high-profit business of your own. Hundreds we've trained have done it. So can YOU! All tools plus professional Key Machine given you with course. These plus practice materials and equipment, plus simple, illustrated lessons, plus expert supervision, plus business-building guidance will enable you to KEEP THE MONEY COMING IN! Ideal for retirement — good jobs, too.

SEND FOR EXCITING FACTS—No Obligation

Discover what's in Locksmithing for you — how Foley-Belsaw's Master Locksmith-approved training can give you the skill you can depend on to EARN MORE — ENJOY LIFE MORE.

No Extra Cost! **Included With Your Locksmith Training**

BURGLAR ALARM and SECURITY SYSTEMS training. Covers all phases of Burglar, Hold-Up and Fire Alarm servicing and installation. This valuable and timely instruction includes all special tools and supplies. ONLY Foley-Belsaw offers such extensive training in this rapidly expanding field as a part of your Locksmith training.

ADVANCED Locksmithing! How to change combinations, install and service Safe, Vault and Bank Safe-Deposit Box locks. You learn-by-doing on the locks that we supply. You'll find it fascinating and highly profitable work.

BE A LOCKSMITH!

Hundreds of Foley-Belsaw trained men have succeeded in this fascinating and highly profitable field . . .

"Before enrolling I checked other courses and also asked for advice from several locksmiths in my area. They all said yours was tops and has the most versatile Key Machine.

"I always wanted to be in business for myself and now I am . . . thanks to Foley-Belsaw Institute.

David Fairbrother—Dave's Locksmith Service Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209

"I opened my own business, spare time, seven months after I enrolled and made a profit of $329 for the first week."
B. A. Deberry Littleton, Colorado

"No more hard, nasty work for me. Now I have my own business and with hardly any effort I average around $50 a day. Thanks for my new start in life."
Sam Walker Prichard, Alabama

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10-DAY NO RISK TRIAL! Send for details!

THIS PRO KEY MACHINE IS YOURS TO KEEP! **FREE**

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Champion: BOB BACKLUND
1—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
2—JIMMY SNUKA
3—RAY STEVENS
4—PEDRO MORALES
5—COWBOY BOB ORTON
6—IVAN PUTSKI
7—PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE
8—ROCKY JOHNSON
9—JOHN STUDD
10—MAGNIFICENT MURACO

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

Champion: NICK BOCKWINKEL
1—OTTO WANZ
2—HULK HOGAN
3—KEN PATERA
4—RICK MARTEL
5—MAD DOG VACHON
6—BARON VON RASCHKE
7—BOBBY DUNCUM
8—CRUSHER BLACKWELL
9—GREG GAGNE
10—TED DiBIASE

MOST POPULAR

1—ANDRE THE GIANT
2—RODDY PIPER
3—DUSTY RHODES
4—TOMMY RICH
5—HULK HOGAN
6—BOB BACKLUND
7—JUNKYARD DOG
8—RICK MARTEL
9—WAHOO McDANIEL
10—ROCKY JOHNSON

ROCKY JOHNSON

OTTO WANZ

HARLEY RACE

TED DiBIASE

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

Champion: RIC FLAIR
1—WAHOO McDANIEL
2—MASKED SUPERSTAR
3—PAUL JONES
4—HARLEY RACE
5—JIM GARVIN
6—KEVIN SULLIVAN
7—DUSTY RHODES
8—TOMMY RICH
9—BRUISER
10—RODDY PIPER

TAG TEAMS

1—MR. FUJI & MR. SAITO
2—SGT. SLAUGHTER & DON KERNODLE
3—GREG GAGNE & JIM BRUNZELL
4—THE SAMOANS
5—SWEET BROWN SUGAR & BUTCH REED
6—JAY & JULES STRONGBOW
7—GINO HERNANDEZ & TULLY BLANCHARD
8—RICK STEAMBOAT & JAY YOUNGBLOOD
9—KEN PATERA & BOBBY DUNCUM
10—RICK MORTON & KEN LUCAS

MOST HATED

1—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
2—RIC FLAIR
3—TED DiBIASE
4—RAY STEVENS
5—BUZZ SAWYER
6—JOHN STUDD
7—NICK BOCKWINKEL
8—GREAT KAMALA
9—SGT. SLAUGHTER
10—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER

Now, Even If You Have Been Thin For Years, You Can

GAIN UP TO 5, 10, 15 POUNDS

without dangerous drugs, without exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines, MEN—an impressive manly body, WOMEN—a curvier, glamorous figure.

If you had started this amazing method just a few short weeks ago, right now you could be up to 5, 10, even 15 pounds heavier or more!

At last, no matter what you have tried, no matter what you have done, if you are a normally healthy person, you can gain up to 5, 10, 15 pounds or more safely, surely, pleasantly, and that's a guaranteed money-back fact.

Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to mealtimes, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs . . . as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE

. . . a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear . . . if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit . . . embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly . . . your chest is too flat . . . your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be . . . If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh . . . so fulfilling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

HERE IS OUR OFFER . . .

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straightforward offer . . .

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt . . . even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and a least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try if for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better . . . If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

GAIN PRODUCTS CORP. Dept G565
Box 2346, Carbondale, Ill. 62901

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

- ☐ One GAIN PLAN for $9.98
- ☐ SAVE $2.00! Order 2 for $17.96
- ☐ SAVE $5.00! Order 3 for $25.00

Enclosed is $_____

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

NAME _____
please print

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

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THE TATTLER

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ALLENTOWN, PA—The Strongbows have done it again, but this time there's no doubt or controversy; Chief Jay and Jules Strongbow are the new WWF tag team champions.

In a televised match, Chief Jay Strongbow cleanly pinned Mr. Saito in the center of the

CHIEF JAY & JULES STRONGBOW

ring. The referee made the three count, and a new pair of champions was crowned.

The match was a one-fall, no time-limit championship match.

(Continued on page 48)

Never before in this history of wrestling journalism have so many respected reporters been involved in so important a venture. The best wrestling correspondents from all over the world have been enlisted to report on the news behind the news. Every wrestling fan must consider this the most important column he can read!

CATCH MORE FISH, BIGGER FISH...

OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

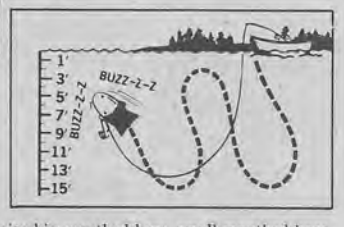
Granted U.S. Patent No. 2,932,916

"Action" Fish Lure Swims By Its Own Power!

ACTION LURE swims, dives, flops like a crippled minnow! Buzzes like a dying insect! Drives pan fish, game fish, salt water fish into a frenzy! Gets savage bites that simply can't pull loose from your hook!

Completely under its own power, ACTION LURE swims and dives like a live darting minnow, then returns to the surface to dive again and again, even on a slack line! As amazing ACTION LURE dives down deep to where the big ones are lurking, fish see its free swimming action, hear its buzzing sound, and bite savagely utterly without fear or hesitation!

Swims & dives to 15 feet! No tugging; no pulling!



ACTION LURE swims by itself without being pulled. It swims various depths down to 15 feet for up to one hour or more, with a slow, erratic maimed-minnow motion that no fresh or salt water fish can resist, all the time sending out its enticing buzzing insect sound to attract fish from yards away!

Yes, ACTION LURE hauls in trophy size big mouthed bass, small mouthed bass, pike, pickerel, perch, walleye, dogfish, catfish, trout, and every other conceivable type of pan fish, game fish, and salt water fish! Eye-popping catches are reported from every section of the country, so we say *"Prove it to yourself!"* Use ACTION LURE for a full month, see for yourself how you catch more fish, bigger fish, how your friends insist on learning your amazing fishing secret.

Works like magic even when other lures and bait fail completely!

You'll haul in limit catches when others aren't even getting a nibble, in lakes, streams, rivers, oceans, wherever you fish! Just picture your self-propelled ACTION LURE slashing through the water in brilliant reds, whites & yellows, only 2" long yet carrying enough fuel to cut through the water for as much as one full hour with a single load! Plunging down to fifteen foot depths, rising again to the surface almost once every minute, ACTION LURE plows through the water tirelessly, pulling in the big ones from hundreds of yards around you!

Here's how ACTION LURE works: All you do is snap open the fuel chamber, drop in two pellets of fuel, and close the fuel chamber again. Takes less than 60 seconds; you don't even dirty your hands! And then . . . simply cast or lower ACTION LURE into fresh or salt water, *and get set for the fishing thrill of your life!*

ACTION LURE GUARANTEE

ACTION LURE is guaranteed to catch more fish and bigger fish in every kind of water, in every kind of weather. If you are not completely satisfied in every respect, return ACTION LURE within 30 days for complete refund.

For perhaps one minute ACTION LURE will float quietly; then, as water reaches the fuel, your lure will seem to shudder for a second, then spring dramatically to "life!" Making the buzzing sound of a dying bee, ACTION LURE will point its nose downward, and begin its first descent! Slowly, jerkily, like a maimed minnow, it will swim noisily downward, buzzing and humming, traveling about nine feet every fifteen seconds! If no fish intercepts it, its descent automatically stops, it slowly raises up its nose and climbs to the surface again!

And again! And again! Tirelessly, hour after hour, far beyond the reach of your own casts! Roaming restlessly over every foot of water beneath you – even on slack line – even when your boat is tied up – *even when you're curled upon the dock, sound asleep!* And all the while ACTION LURE is swimming and buzzing and driving the fish around you to such a frenzy they practically tear the rod out of your hands!

World's first self-propelled lure!

No wonder this revolutionary ACTION LURE took six full years to develop! Here's what ACTION LURE will do for YOU! . . .

It frees you forever from the filthy tasks of digging for worms & crawlers, catching frogs, or paying 50c to $1 for a bucket of minnows that die on you before you can even get them into your boat! It frees you forever from paying $3, $4, or even $5 for those fancy "Dead-as-a-Duck" lures that only work when you tow them!

Tomorrow, for the first time in your life, you'll be weighing down your boat with bass, trout, pike, pickerel, perch . . . limit catches of pan fish, game fish, fresh and salt water fish, wherever you can drop a line! You'll fish better – novice or pro – sound asleep at the bottom of your boat, than most fishermen sweating and casting till their arms ache from exhaustion!

And you'll have the time of your life, amazing your friends and family with your hauls, and seeing your fishermen friend's eyes pop as they watch your incredible self-propelled ACTION LURE at work!

Try one full month at our expense!

You have nothing to lose! Fish with ACTION LURE for one full month entirely at our risk! Cost is only **$3.99**. You receive ACTION LURE plus enough fuel to last up to a full year, together with complete instructions. Four "alluring" colors: red, green, orange, yellow. Order all four for only **$12.50**; you get four times as much fuel, and you save $1.95.

ACTION LURE, DEPT. 8141 U.S. P.O. Box 69383, Los Angeles, CA 90069

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY!

ACTION LURE, DEPT. 8141
U.S. P.O.BOX 69383 LOS ANGELES, CA 90069

Please send me ACTION LURES as checked below; it is clearly understood I must be completely satisfied in every respect or I may return ACTION LURES within 30 days for complete refund.

- ☐ 1 **ACTION LURE** with full year's supply of fuel, **$3.99**; plus 50c postage and handling.
- ☐ 2 **ACTION LURES**, each a different color, each with a full year's supply of fuel, **$7.50 plus 75c** postage and handling. *(Save 48c)*
- ☐ 4 **ACTION LURES**, each a different color, each with a full year's supply of fuel, **$12.50** plus $1.00 postage and handling. *(Save $3.46)*

GET LIMIT CATCHES! ORDER EXTRA FUEL PELLETS

- ☐ **1 pack** (50 pellets) only **$1.00.**
- ☐ **2 packs** (100 pellets) only **$1.75.** *Save 25c!*
- ☐ **6 packs** (300 pellets) only **$4.98.** *Save $1.02!*

☐ $_____ **Payment enclosed:** ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ M.O.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State and Zip_____

Tiger Mask stuns Dos Caras with a backkick to the midsection (above). The WWF and NWA junior heavyweight champion poses regally before his Madison Square Garden debut against The Dynamite Kid in September (below).

THE COMPETITION IN wrestling for any given title is always fierce. For every single champion, there are dozens and dozens of men scrambling to sign for a title match with that man. The ability to win a major championship is surpassed only by the will and stamina to maintain that title for a considerable period of time.

One of the most remarkable champions in the sport today defends not one, but *two* wrestling titles: the NWA junior heavyweight championship and the WWF junior heavyweight championship.

For building up an astonishing record in defense of these two titles, as well as displaying peerless skills in the ring, February's Wrestler of the Month award goes to Tiger Mask.

"Tiger Mask is simply one of the most incredible wrestlers in the world today," said Associate Editor Steve Farhood. "He has this one maneuver where he flings his opponent into the turnbuckle. He runs at him as if he is going to deliver a dropkick, but then when his feet make contact with the man's chest, he pushes off with his legs, does a spectacular backflip, and lands on his feet ready for further action. His opponent is stunned, but Tiger Mask is on the offensive and ready for anything. He's amazing, he's truly as agile as a cat."

Such a maneuver is merely one of the literally hundreds of flamboyant moves in Tiger Mask's repertoire. His style is accented not only by high-flying aerial maneuvers in the manner of Mil Mascaras but also by lightning-fast spins and kicks that are normally the hallmark of a championship kick boxer.

Tiger Mask currently maintains one of the most grueling schedules of anyone in professional

(Continued on page 12)

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Robert N. Nilsen—Mechanicsburg, Pa.
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James Carlisle—Manager, Karate School of Champions, Wilkensburg, Pa.
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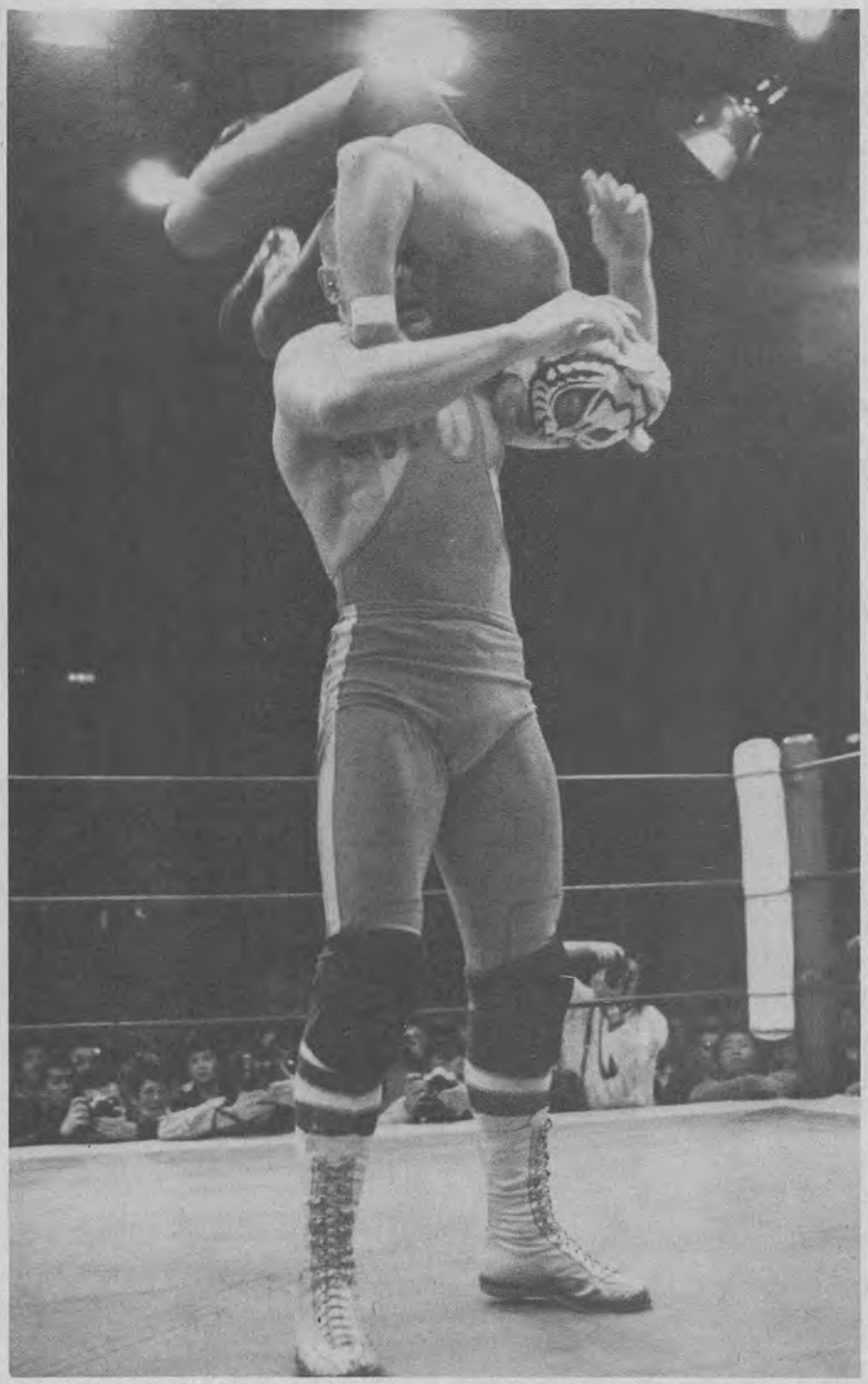
WRESTLER OF THE MONTH

(Continued from Page 10)



Tiger Mask thwarts The Dynamite Kid's attempted bodyslam with a counter only he is capable of performing. As Tiger Mask is lifted into the air, he pushes off the Kid's shoulders, springing out of his grasp, and landing behind him on his feet.

wrestling. His NWA and WWF title defenses take him to all corners of the globe and he is constantly faced with the most difficult task of defending both these titles on a regular basis.

"He is phenomenal, I'll say that much for him," says Les Thornton, the man who was defeated by Tiger Mask for the NWA junior heavyweight belt. "He is very quick, very agile, and he's got moves that nobody else in wrestling could even begin to learn. He combines so many disciplines when he wrestles: pure scientific wrestling, kick boxing, karate, kung fu, and gymnastics. It's that combination that makes him a very difficult man to defeat because you never know which field he's going to draw from next for a maneuver. You can set yourself up to defend against karate kicks and he turns around and lays some pure wrestling on you. He's really a remarkable athlete."

In the WWF, the former junior heavyweight titlist is Tatsumi Fujinami. He vacated the title so that he could move up to heavyweight competition. A tournament was held in Japan to replace him, and Tiger Mask worked his way through a field of rough competitors to capture the title.

Although Tiger Mask has made a few appearances in the United States, most of his title defenses take place in his native Japan.

"I don't think it is too much to ask challengers to come to Japan," he said. "After all, part of being a challenger is to go where the action is, and part of being champion is to wrestle for the people who made you champion in the first place. The fans in Japan have been very good to me. They support me, and I feel I owe it to them to wrestle there as much as possible. I would like to spend more time in the United States, but that all depends on my schedule. Right now I can only wrestle in the U.S. once in a while. Hopefully, I will be able to wrestle there more often. The fans there are very good to me."

For any fan who has seen Tiger Mask in action, it is an experience not to be easily forgotten. For any fan who has the opportunity to see him wrestle, we strongly recommend you do: He is truly one in a million.

Congratulations to Tiger Mask, *Sports Review Wrestling's* Wrestler of the Month for February. □

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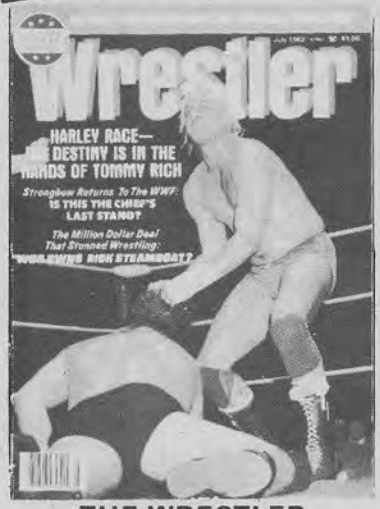

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HORRIBLE BEATING

What I witnessed this morning on television made me sick. Jimmy Snuka was horribly beaten by his deranged manager, Lou Albano, and his opponent, Ray Stevens. Moments before this incident, on the feature "Rogers' Corner," the popular Buddy Rogers informed Jimmy that his money was gone (probably all spent by Albano on anything but clothes and soap), and that his contract was nonexistent. In a moving moment, Snuka asked Rogers to be his new manager. The only one prouder than Mr. Rogers at that moment was me, seeing my idol, Jimmy Snuka, become not only a fan favorite, but a kind and caring man. What happened during the match made me numb: seeing the Superfly choked, whipped, and gouged by two morons before receiving two consecutive piledrivers by Stevens. Buddy Rogers, please listen to me: Don't stop until Jimmy Snuka, under your guidance, has put Ray Stevens out of wrestling permanently. Albano could also use a good beating if Jimmy agrees. Good luck men, from all the fans.

JAY WADSWORTH
Middleton, MA

TAKE A LESSON, OLE

An open letter to Ole Anderson:

I can't believe it. You claim to be half of the Minnesota Wrecking Crew, but you pay off Abdullah the Butcher to do your dirty work

Jimmy Snuka lies in a pool of blood after being brutally beaten by the combination of Lou Albano and Ray Stevens. Reader Jay Wadsworth anxiously awaits Snuka's revenge.

Ric Flair locks up in a test of strength with number-one Puerto Rican contender The Invader. "Mailbag" contributor Andy Robbins appreciates the fact that Managing Editor Bill Apter frequently leaves the U.S. to cover important matches.

against Roddy Piper.

Roddy Piper isn't my favorite wrestler, but at least he isn't a coward. For someone who claims to be the best, you're not anything. If you were smart, you would take some lessons from some real men who fight their own battles, like Roddy Piper, Tommy Rich, and Wildfire's cousin Johnny Rich.

NIKKI HARVEY
Crooksville, OH

A JOB WELL DONE

I would just like to thank Bill Apter for his fantastic job on the special feature "Area Closeup: Wrestling in Puerto Rico" (December 1982). All too often we only read about Ric Flair defending his title in the Omni in Atlanta or of wrestlers like Abdullah the Butcher or The Moondogs when they travel within the United States. It's good to know that reporters like Apter are out there, going to where the action is, instead of waiting for the action to come to them. We always read about how heavyweight champions like Flair defend their titles all over, but to see photos of Flair defending his NWA belt against The Invader in Puerto Rico is really a treat.

Thanks again, Bill, and I hope we can see more features like this in the months to come.

ANDY ROBBINS
New York

BAR THE SUPERSTAR

I am very upset with the actions of Superstar Billy Graham in recent weeks. On television, Graham distracted Bob Backlund during a non-title match with Swede Hanson by picking up the championship belt and strutting around the ring with it. After disposing of Hanson, Backlund lunged at Graham, who punched Bob in the groin. As if this wasn't enough, he smashed Backlund over the head with the belt, and then proceeded to rip, smash, and destroy the solid gold championship belt.

I feel Graham, the worst WWF champion ever, should be fined, suspended, and barred from ever wrestling for the WWF title again because of his lack of respect.

DARIN ST. GEORGE
Holliston, MA

TIRED OF TOMMY

Tommy Rich, Tommy Rich, that's all you hear about lately. Frankly, we're tired of him. Don't get us wrong, we like him, but enough is enough. There are other wrestlers who should also be in your magazines: Kevin, Kerry, and David Von Erich, Brian Adidas, and Al Madrill, to name a few. These men, and I say *men*, have done a whole lot for Texas by controlling H&H Association Ltd., rulebreakers like Kabuki and The Golden Dragon who are under the management of Arman Hussein and Jimmy Hart.

Another thing: Tommy Rich is not very sexy like a lot of people say. These people haven't seen Kerry, Kevin, David, Brian, and Al yet. These truly world-class wrestlers should have more space in your magazine.

Although Tommy Rich is not appreciated by all the fans in Texas, he is loved by everyone in Georgia, especially the fans who tacked this sign to the wall outside his dressing room.

KATHY C.
MONICA D.
Plainview, TX□

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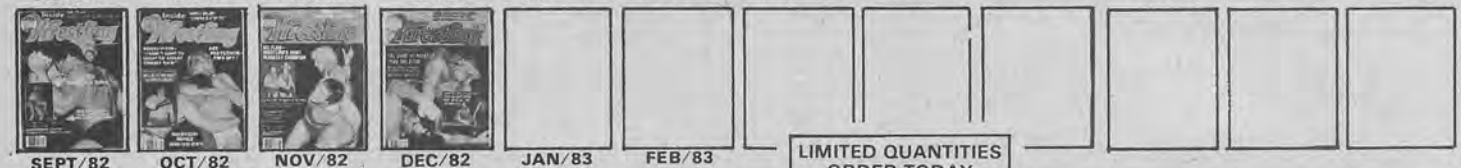

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The Inquiring Reporter

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THE QUESTION:
"In light of the recent events concerning Captain Lou Albano and Jimmy 'Superfly' Snuka, do you think managers are a necessary part of wrestling?"

THE ANSWERS:

Phil Martin, Detroit: "I feel that a manager can be a help to any wrestler, but he's got to be the kind of a man who isn't going to cheat the man he is managing. Obviously, all Albano was out to do was embezzle as much money from the Superfly as possible. He wasn't really interested in making him a better and more efficient wrestler."

Rich Anderson, Lawrence, NY: "Not really. Managers can be good for a wrestler as far as handling the details of setting up a match, handling the financial end of a wrestler's career, and so forth. But all of these things can be done by people who aren't wrestling managers. They can be done by outside agents and lawyers. Almost all the managers in wrestling cause nothing but trouble."

(Continued on page 54)

The violent separation of Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka and Captain Lou Albano raises some very interesting questions concerning manager-wrestler relationships. Should wrestlers even have managers at all? Our respondents were split on this issue.

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TOP WRESTLE
YOUR QUESTION

Do you have a question which concerns all of wrestling? Each month in SPORTS REVIEW WRESTLING, the sport's top superstars will answer a question sent in by a reader. If you wish to have your question answered by the wrestlers, send it to:

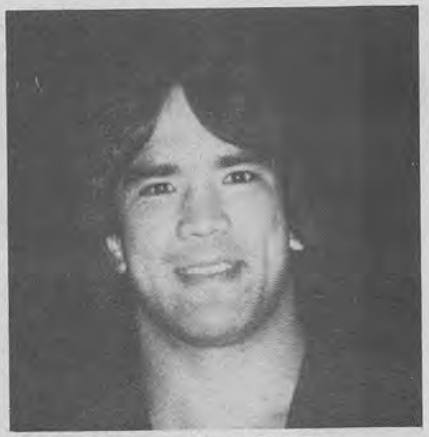
ASK THE STARS
Sports Review Wrestling
Box 48
Rockville Centre, N.Y.
11571

The "Question of the Month" is: "What was the greatest match of your career?"

Submitted by: Will McCoy, Hamilton, New York

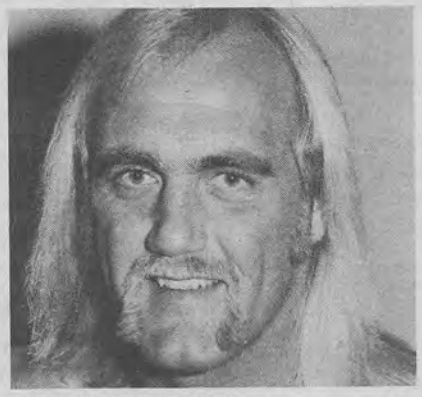
BOB BACKLUND

"I guess the greatest match of my career was when I won the WWF title from Superstar Graham in Madison Square Garden back in 1978. I'll never forget the feeling of holding that belt high in the air for the first time and hearing the roar of the crowd. It sent chills up and down my spine."



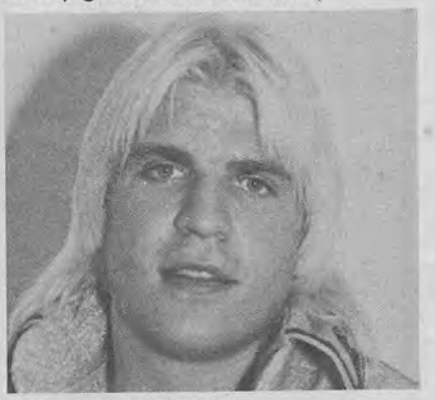
RICK STEAMBOAT

"A lot of matches come to mind. Of course, I think about the time I won various titles, and those always feel good. But there was one match when Harley Race held the NWA belt. Race and I wrestled to a draw after a full hour. That's a grueling pace. I wasn't too pleased with the outcome then, but looking back on it, it was one of my greatest matches."



HULK HOGAN

"I think that my match against Andre the Giant in New York at Shea Stadium was my greatest. You know it's not every day I have to look up at my opponent. Andre tested my abilities to the fullest and I enjoyed the challenge, but I liked it better when he was my tag team partner!"

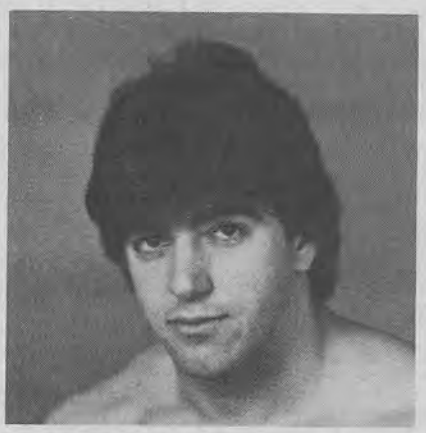


TOMMY RICH

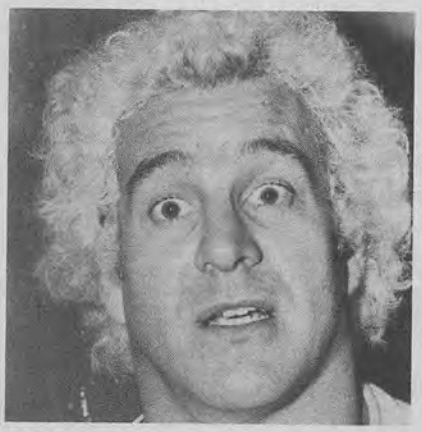
"No question, it had to be the night back in April of 1981 when I pinned Harley Race to win the NWA title. I may not have been able to hold on to the belt for as long as I had hoped, but I was an NWA champion, and there aren't many around who can say that."

RS ANSWER OF THE MONTH

MAGNIFICENT MURACO
"I don't know, it seems every match I'm in is great. One of the best was when I whipped that sleazeball Pedro Morales and took the Intercontinental title away from him. Now that I'm back in the WWF, I want another shot at him because I deserve that title more than he does."



RICK MARTEL
"The greatest match I remember was when I was teamed up with Tony Garea and we regained our WWF tag team belts from The Moondogs. Let me tell you, a lot of teams underestimate those beasts, and we were one of them. But getting them back felt great, and it was one of the greatest moments for both Tony and me."



KEN PATERA
"It had to be the day I won the Missouri title a second time from that wimp Jack Brisco. What a match! I even remember the day: October 23, 1981. Everyone said I could never regain the title, that Brisco could not be beaten, but I proved everyone wrong."

NICK BOCKWINKEL
"There have been a lot of great matches during my career, but the greatest in recent months was when I took the belt back from Otto Wanz. After all, I knew it was a fluke that he had taken the title in the first place, but it was great to be able to prove it to everyone else, including the fans and Wanz himself."

JERRY LAWLER
"The biggest wimp in the world has got to be that guy Andy Kaufman. The stork that brought him should have been arrested for carrying dope, you know what I mean? I think the greatest thing that ever happened in my life was piledriving Kaufman twice and sending him to the hospital."

SWEET BROWN SUGAR
"I think the greatest match ever for me was when I wrestled Mil Mascaras. It was tremendous. We had a scientific match. It went the time limit and when it was all over Mascaras honored me by saying that I'm the man to continue the traditions he's been carrying on for so long. Mil Mascaras is a true gentleman."

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

Some of the back issues in this ad have not been offered for sale for more than 25 years. All of these extremely rare magazines are from the personal collection of Stanley Weston, owner of the world's largest collection of wrestling memorabilia. This is indeed a once in a lifetime opportunity for the true collector to finally own these highly treasured but until now elusive editions. Obviously, the supplies of these issues is very limited, and they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. It is for that reason we urge you to list substitute choices when you order. This will avoid time wasted writing back and forth should a particular issue be sold out. The prices quoted are based on the rarity of the issue and the amount of available copies. For fastest service, payment should be made by money order or certified check. While cash will be accepted, we cannot assume responsibility when it is sent through the mails. All sales are final and no exchanges will be made.

BOXING & WRESTLING

After five issues, WRESTLING magazine changed its name to BOXING & WRESTLING. Continuing its high standard in wrestling, the addition of boxing stories made it one of the most popular sports magazines of the '50s. Some of the back issues listed in this ad can be obtained now by the general public for the first time in more than 25 years. As you would expect, supplies are very, very limited.

JANUARY 1952 ***Boxing***—Pep vs. Saddler, Gans vs. Kid Lavigne, Robinson vs. Turpin, Mickey Walker, Tricksters, Tony Janiro, Barney Ross's Record, Tex Rickard, Roland LaStarza, Leonard vs. Kilbane, Rocky Marciano, Ratings, Knockouts
Wrestling—Yvon Robert, Wrestling Whirl, Sky Hi Lee, Matches of the Month, Pacific Coast Championship, George Hackenschmidt, Indian Wrestlers, Ruffy Silverstein, Ratings, Londos vs. Shikat **$25**

JUNE 1952 ***Boxing***—Fights of the Month, Gil Turner, Max Schmeling, Jack Johnson, Ratings, Stillman's Gym, Chico Vejar, Flyweights and Bantamweights, Tex Rickard Story, Paddy DeMarco, Max Baer's Record
Wrestling—Lord Carlton, Ratings, Mars Bennett, Human Sides, Tony Lanza, Wrestling Whirl, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, Matches of Month, San Francisco Promoter Joe Malcewicz **$25**

AUGUST 1952 ***Boxing***—Highlights, Paddy Young, Sammy Mandell, Trainer Doc Bagler, Jack Dempsey, Keeny Teran and Gil Cadilli, Tex Rickard Story, Lew Tendler, TV From Miami, From Knockdown to Victory, Ratings
Wrestling—Dirty Dick Raines, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, How Girl Wrestlers Keep Fit, Ratings, Adrian Baillargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, Mighty Atlas **$25**

SEPTEMBER 1952 ***Boxing***—Highlights, Fighting Italians, George Araujo, Pancho Villa, Trainer Charlie Goldman, Willie Troy, Ratings, Boxing Confidential, Gene Tunney, Jackie Fields
Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Lou Thesz's Record, Ratings, Matches of Month, Tim Geohagen, , William Muldoon, Wrestling Whirl **$25**

OCTOBER 1952 ***Boxing***—Highlights (Walcott vs. Charles; Carter loses to Salas, etc.), Lauro Salas, Stanley Ketchel, Irish Champions, Chuck Davey, Max Schmeling, Ratings, Joe Miceli, Strange Experiences, Willie Pep tells about his loss to Sandy Saddler, Boxing Medicine Man Dr. Nardiello
Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Their Hardest Battles, Matches of Month, Ray Gunkel, Tough Turks, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Record of Verne Gagne **$25**

DECEMBER 1954 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Matches of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ezzard Charles writes about Marciano, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Tony DeMarco, Jimmy Braddock, Maxie Rosenbloom's Life, Paul Andrews, Tony Galento vs. Lou Nova, Benny Leonard, Quiz, Dempsey vs. Fred Fulton, Quiz
Wrestling—Bob Orton, Matches of Month, Cowboy Carlson, Mars Bennett, California Champs, Al Costello, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Fan Clubs **$25**

FEBRUARY 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Nino Valdez Says "I'll Beat Marciano," Billy Petrolle's Life, Carmen Basilio Challenges Johnny Saxton, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Lou Stillman, Jim Corbett vs. Joe Choynski, Jack Delany, Jack Johnson Compared to Modern Fighters, Why Black Fighters Are Tops, Quiz, Ratings, Jimmy McLarnin
Wrestling—Billy Varga, Ratings, Violet Viann, Verne Gagne, Speaks Out, Matches of Month, Sonny Myers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, How To Start A Fan Club **$25**

MARCH 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Kid Gavilan, Cisco Andrade, Eugene Criqui, Ratings, Writer Dan Parker, Best Heavyweight Of All, Charley Powell, Youg Griffo, Kid McCoy vs. Tomy Sharkey, Willie Ritchie, Quiz, Pedro Montanez
Wrestling—Gorgeous George, Matches of Month, Jack Witzig, Ike Eakins, Texas Tough Guys, Little Black Dynamite, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs. **$25**

APRIL 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Archie Moore Blasts Marciano, Robert Cohen, Joe Choynski's Life, Strike By Managers' Guild, 'Boardwalk' Billy Smith, Ad Wolgast vs. Joe Rivers, Fake Fights, St. Nicks Arena, TV Fights of 1954, Paul Berlenbach, Quiz, Ratings **$25**

JUNE 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Eduardo Lausse, Tony Canzoneri's Life, Tiger Jones and Bobby Jones, How Marciano is Managed, Lou Brouillard's Life, Bob Baker, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner, Ten Deadliest Punches, Tommy Ryan vs. Sandow, Ruby Goldstein, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Yukon Eric, Pacific Coast Powerhouses, Billy Goelz, Wrestling Whirl, Manuel Cortez, Matches of Month, Bob Geigel, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Billy Varga **$25**

JULY 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Rocky Marciano Crushes Don Cockell, Fights of Month, Chico Vejar, Tony Canzoneri's Life (conclusion), Carmen Basilio describes his war with Tony DeMarco, Fight Nite At St. Nicks, Jimmy Soo, Fantasy Fight with Joe Walcott, Ludwig Lightburn, Benny Leonard vs. Ever Hammer, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—'Tiger' Joe Marsh, Matches of Month, Timmy Geohagen, TV Stars, Yukon Eric Tells How To Build Muscles, Was Henri DeGlane a Nazi?, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Frankie Talaber **$25**

AUGUST 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Floyd Patterson, Tony DeMarco, Boxing's Mouthpiece, Mickey Walker, Joe Rowan, Fritzie Zivic batters Henry Armstrong, Fighting Irish, Joey Lopes, Sam Langford vs. Stanley Ketchel, Quiz, Luis Firpo, Ratings
Wrestling—'Legs' Langevin, Yukon Eric, Matches of Month, Promoter Eddie Quinn, Most Dangerous Holds, Joe Cassius, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up Of Leo Nomellini **$25**

SEPTEMBER 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Castellani, Promoter Jim Norris, Fight Afternoon, Rudy Garcia, Abe Attell, Billy Graham Quits, Terry McGovern vs. Pedler Palmer, Pat McMurtry, Al Singer, Willie Jackson, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Leo Nomelline, Do Black Wrestlers Get Fair Shake? Matches of Month, Crazy Kalmikoffs, Hans Schnabel, Wrestling Whirl, Al & Tiny Mills, Gossip, Wrestling Stinks! Full Color Pin Up of Big Bill Miller **$25**

OCTOBER 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, The Real Marciano, Frankie Carbo, Carmen Basilio, John L. Sullivan vs. Charley Mitchell, Carmelo Costa, Jack Dempsey (Part 1), Paddy Young, Archie Moore, Joe Benjamin, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Hans Herman, Matches of Month, Strangler Lewis, One World's Title! Sky Hi Lee, Wrestling Whirl, Kamikaze Kinji, Hans Schmidt, Full Color Pin Up of Lord Blears **$25**

NOVEMBER 1955 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Marciano Kayoes Archie Moore, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, What Made Dempsey A Killer? 'Bud' Smith, Yama Bahama, Joe Gans vs. Rufe Turner, Strategy, Tony Puleo, Great Trainers, Ratings, Johnny Dundee, Johnny Kilbane, Quiz
Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Matches of Month, Don Arnold, Colorful Characters, Hindu Wrestlers, Chris Tolos, Malcolm Brenner, Full Color Pin Up of Pat O'Connor **$25**

JANUARY 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Joey Giambra upsets Bobo Olson, Joe Lynch, Ray Drake, Mystery of Joe Walcott Solved, Training Camps, Jimmy Slattery, Chris Christensen, Bare Knuckle Brawl-Tom Johnson vs. Isaac Perrins, Petey Sarron, Charley White, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Why Women Wrestle, Wrestling Whirl, Bill Fletcher, Ivan Padubny, Bearded Wrestlers, Matches of Month, Art Michalek, Gossip, Fan Clubs **$25**

MARCH 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Chuck Spieser, Isaac Logart, Ratings, Luis Firpo's Life, Raton Macias, Jim Jeffries vs. Ji Corbett, Tiger Jones, Boxing Lesson, Review of 1955, Frankie Genaro, Quiz
Wrestling—Leo 'The Lion' Newman, Matches of Month, Doc Gallagher, Terrible Turk, Breast Cancer and Girl Wrestlers, Barefoot Wrestlers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Wives of Wrestlers **$25**

APRIL 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Commissioner Helfand, Pete Herman, Regaining Titles, Bobby Boyd, Ace Hudkins' Life, George Dixon vs. Solly Smith, Joe Benjamin, Louis 'Kid' Kaplan, Quiz **$25**

MAY 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, How Floyd Patterson Will Fight Marciano, Ray Robinson's Problems, Jackie 'Kid' Berg's Life, Yama Bahama, 'Kid' Lavigne, Combating TV, Sam Langford, Bob Murphy, Boxing Lesson, Carl Tremaine, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Rocca, Ada Ash, Matches of Month, Old Timers, Prince Maivia, Wrestling Whirl, Jerry Graham, Red Bastien, Gossip **$25**

JUNE 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ludwig Lightburn, Remembering Chicago, Tony Zale's Life, Rory Calhoun, Quiz, Ratings, Tom Sharkey vs. Peter Maher by Jim Corbett, Aureilo Herrera, Dave Shade, Readers' Gripe
Wrestling—'Hard Boiled' Haggerty, Wrestling Whirl, John Pesek, Killer Kowalski, Texas Hot Spot, Powerhouses, Matches of Month, Fan Clubs, Gossip **$25**

JULY 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Marciano, Max Schmeling's Life, Johnny Saxton, John L. Sullivan, Miguel Berrios, Larry Boardman, Quiz, Ratings, Joe Gans vs. 'Elbows' McFadden, Hollywood Legion Stadium, Ritchie Mitchell
Wrestling—Lord Blears, Matches of Month, Mexican Stars, Ramona TeSelle, Danno O'Mahoney, Wrestling Whirl, Roy Shire, TV Wrestling, Gossip **$25**

AUGUST 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Bob Fitzsimmons vs. Peter Maher, Cherif Hamia, John Holman, Jess Willard's Life, Bucking TV, Johnny Summerlin, Joe Choynski, Earl Mastro, Ratings, Bob Armstrong, Quiz, Gossip
Wrestling—George Drake, Wrestling Whirl, Chief Kit Fox, Matches of Month, Yvon Robert (Part 1), Why Wrestlers Bleach Their Hair, Bob Geigel, Gossip **$25**

OCTOBER 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, Henry Armstrong's Life, Archie Moore, Jimmy McLarnin, Charley Joseph, Jim Jeffries, Jimmy Soo, Boxing Lesson, Kid Chocolate, Ratings, Quiz, Letters
Wrestling—Don Leo Jonathan, Wrestling Whirl, Fred Blassie, Billy Varga's Wife, Dangers of Wrestling, Yvon Robert (Part 3), Matches of Month, Letters, Fan Club **$25**

NOVEMBER 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Art Aragon, Mario D'Agata, Tony Anthony, King Levinsky's Life, Johnny Busso, Joe Louis vs. John Henry Lewis, Ken Overlin, Ratings, Lockport Jimmy Duffy, Kid McCoy vs. Jim Stewart, Quiz
Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Around the Circuit, Slave Girl Moolah, Ratings, Matches of MOnth, Yvon Robert (Part 4), George Hubert, Fan Clubs, Letters **$25**

DECEMBER 1956 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Gene Fullmer, Jack Dempsey vs. Billy Miske, Harold Carter, Tex Class Fights, Jinx of College Fighters, Barney Ross vs. Jimmy McLarnin, Alex Miteff, Eddie 'Babe' Risko, Leonard Del Genio, Frank Battaglia, Ratings, Letters
Wrestling—John Paul Hennig, Wrestling Whirl, Rose Roman, Tag Team Situation, Matches of Month, Jim Wright, Bull Montana's Wife, Are Fans Crazy? Letters **$25**

JANUARY 1957 ***Boxing***—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Fighter of Year, Mike Gibbons' Life, Predicting the Champs in 1957, Joe Brown, Greatest Lightweights of All Time, Stanley Ketchel, Boxing Lesson, Tommy Loughran beats Jim Braddock, Bill Brennan, Ratings, Quiz, Letters
Wrestling—Carl Engstrom, Greatest Champions of All Time, Bronko Nagurski, Matches of Month, Johnny Barend, Wrestling Whirl, Tito Carreon, Comparing Old and New, Letters **$30**

SEPTEMBER 1957 ***Boxing***—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Fights of Month, Tony Anthony, Benny Leonard Kayoed by Frank Fleming, Alphonse Halimi, Peter Jackson, Willie Pastrano, Gene Tunney, Billy Ryan, Triple Header; Harry Greb beats Mickey Walker, Dave Shade Kayoes Jimmy Slattery, Harry Wills Stops Charley Weinert, 'Knockout Brown,' Tom Sayers, Stanley Ketchel's Life in Pictures, Critics Talk, Ratings
Wrestling—Wrestlers Highest Paid, Killer Kowalski, Results of Month, Hard Boiled Haggerty, Letters, Fan Clubs, Facts Behind Wrestling Boom **$35**

JANUARY 1958 ***Boxing***—Stanley Weston Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Jimmy Braddock vs. Tommy Farr, Floyd Patterson, Johnny Kilbane, Mike O'Dowd, Chalky Wright, Carmen Basilio, Jimmy Wilde's Life, World's Ten Best Fighters, Quiz, Fighters Turned Actor, Bobing Lesson, Bare Knuckle Feature, Leach Cross Kayoes Young Otto, Letters, Remember When, Ratings
Wrestling—Ricki Starr, The Bruiser, Canadian Trail, Fan Clubs, Letters, Matches of Month **$25**

FEBRUARY 1958 ***Boxing***—TV Jottings, Letters, Fights of Month, Louis vs. Marciano, Robinson vs. LaMotta, Walcott vs. Charles, Pep vs. Saddler, Basilio vs. DeMarco, Light Heavyweight History, Punch that Shocked World (Jack Sharkey Fouls Max Schmeling), Preview of 1958, Born Killer (Fiction), Britain's Boxing Booths, Ray Robinson's Career in Pictures, Picking Winners, Quiz, Gene Tunney-Georges Carpentier Feud, Al McCoy, Critics Talk
Wrestling—Mickey Gold, The Garibaldis, Smith Brother Gypsy Joe, The Gallaghers, How Women React to Wrestlers, Photo Highlights, Results of Month, Fan Clubs **$25**

APRIL 1958 ***Boxing***—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Fights of Month, Ratings, Carmen Basilio—Fighter of the Year, Complete Review of 1957 featuring Records, Results, Weights, Photos (Eight Pages), Bob Fitzsimmons, History of the Middleweights, Kid Chocolate Beats Fidel LaBarba, John L. Sullivan's Life, Barney Ross' Book, Remember When
Wrestling—Wrestlers in Movies, Sexiest Girl Wrestlers-Penny Banner and Barbara Baker, Predictions for 1958, Is The Champion Lou Thesz or Ed Carpentier? Sellout at the Garden, Photos of Month, Results of Month **$25**

WRESTLING REVUE

WRESTLING REVUE (1959-1964) is thought to be the finest series of wrestling magazines ever published. These beautiful editions (all edited and published by Stanley Weston) set a standard by which all of today's wrestling magazines are judged. The magnificent back issues in this ad, many of which contain spectacular full-color inserts, have been unavailable to the public for more than 10 years. Supplies of these collector's treasures are very limited.

FALL 1960 ..... **$35**
SUMMER 1960 ..... **$35**
WINTER 1960 ..... **$30**

BOXING ILLUSTRATED-WRESTLING NEWS

In November 1958 Stanley Weston launched BOXING ILLUSTRATED-WRESTLING NEWS, which established an entirely new concept in the field of boxing and wrestling magazines. They consisted of about 65 percent boxing and 35 percent wrestling in content of the finest writing and photographs ever published. Most of the very rare issues listed below have not been offered for sale in almost 20 years, and they are among the most highly prized Collector's Issues of all time.

NOVEMBER 1958 ..... **$25**
DECEMBER 1958 ..... **$35**
NOVEMBER 1959 ..... **$40**
JANUARY 1960 ..... **$40**
MARCH 1960 ..... **$45**
JULY 1960 ..... **$40**
NOVEMBER 1960 ..... **$35**
DECEMBER 1960 ..... **$35**
JANUARY 1961 ..... **$40**
MARCH 1961 ..... **$35**
APRIL 1961 ..... **$35**
SEPTEMBER 1961 ..... **$35**
OCTOBER 1961 ..... **$50**
NOVEMBER 1961 ..... **$35**
DECEMBER 1961 ..... **$35**
JANUARY 1962 ..... **$40**
FEBRUARY 1962 ..... **$40**
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JUNE 1962 ..... **$35**
APRIL 1963 ..... **$35**
DECEMBER 1963 ..... **$40**
APRIL 1964 ..... **$35**
JUNE 1964 ..... **$35**
AUGUST 1964 ..... **$25**
OCTOBER 1964 ..... **$40**
NOVEMBER 1964 ..... **$40**

TV BOXING

To meet the public's growing hunger for up-to-the-minute information generated by regular boxing matches shown on the new television medium, Stanley Weston created a new magazine in 1953 to meet the demands. TV BOXING was unique in every way, and while its life's span was less than two years, it established itself as a milestone in the field of boxing magazines. The extremely rare issues listed below have not been offered for sale since 1954.

OCTOBER 1953 ..... **$25**
NOVEMBER 1953 ..... **$35**
JANUARY 1954 ..... **$25**
FEBRUARY 1954 ..... **$30**
MARCH 1954 ..... **$25**
APRIL 1954 ..... **$25**
MAY 1954 ..... **$25**
JULY 1954 ..... **$30**

1953 BOXING ANNUAL

This cherished collector's issue consisted of 100 pages of seemingly endless photographs, statistics and complete records of the leading fighters of the day: Marciano, Robinson, Gavilan, DeMarco, Carter, Saddler, Moore. The list goes on and on. And well over 100 great pictures, some in a glowing red tint. We guarantee that this fabulous 1953 Boxing Annual will turn back the clock and make you feel like you are living in those times, thrilling to the unforgettable performances of some of the greatest fighters who ever lived. This was the first Boxing Annual ever published, and to this day it still retains its title: The Best of All Time—The Champion of Champions! **$50**

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

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SEND ME THE BACK ISSUES I'VE LISTED BELOW
Please write in magazine name and date
For Example: "BOXING & WRESTLING Jan./1952"

1 _____ 4 _____

2 _____ 5 _____

3 _____ 6 _____

In The Event Any Of The Above Magazines Are Sold Out, I Will Accept The Substitute Issues Listed Below

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TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $ _____

Compiled By Stu Saks

SCRAPBOOK

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER 1967

AFTER "THE WRESTLER" broke the story of Buddy Rogers' return to wrestling, the former NWA and WWF champion was swamped with offers from all over the world. "Half the offers were from promoters trying to sign me to matches," he said, "and the other half were from businessmen who wanted to manage me. Ya know, there's a lot of money out there to be made." . . . After several slow years, Boston has re-established itself as one of the nation's top wrestling cities, drawing a record crowd for the WWF title match between Bruno Sammartino and Gorilla Monsoon . . . Cowboy Bob Orton Sr., the Nebraska state champion, had so irritated the fans with his cruel tactics that he needed a police escort to and from the ring . . . Ray Stevens broke the right leg of an already-unconscious preliminary wrestler during a TV match in the San Francisco Bay area. When confronted by NWA officials who threatened to revoke his wrestling license, Stevens "defended" himself by saying, "I should have busted both legs!" . . . Rip Hawk and Swede Hanson maintained their firm grip on the Mid-Atlantic tag team belts . . . Edouard Carpentier called his victory over Mad Dog Vachon in Montreal the "most satisfying of my career." . . . Bruiser sought out the "world's lousiest wrestler" in order to get Bobby Heenan to agree to a tag team match (which was certainly the only way he would ever get the chance to meet Heenan in the ring). When Bruiser imported Ringo, "the wrestling Beatle," from the West Coast, Heenan signed his name and that of his charge, Angelo Poffo, to a contract. Later, he was sorry. Ringo spent the entire match on the ring apron where he couldn't get in the way, while Bruiser gave both Heenan and Poffo a beating they would never

Buddy Rogers received numerous offers from promoters and managers throughout the country after the story of his comeback was printed in THE WRESTLER. Rogers is the only man to have held both the WWF and NWA titles.

Rip Hawk and Swede Hanson, who comprised one of the most feared tag teams of the 1960s, are considering the possibility of teaming once again. Hawk has been in semiretirement for the last few years.

forget! NWA RATINGS: 1-Gene Kiniski; 2-Fritz Von Erich; 3-Johnny Valentine; 4-Bob Orton Sr.; 5-Lou Thesz; 6-Wilbur Snyder; 7-Bulldog Brower; 8-The Destroyer; 9-Eddie Graham; 10-Pat O'Connor. WWF RATINGS: 1-Bruno Sammartino; 2-Gorilla Monsoon; 3-Spiros Arion; 4-Miguel Perez; 5-Edouard Carpentier; 6-Luke Graham; 7-Arman Hussein; 8-Bill Miller; 9-Bobo Brazil; 10-Arnold Skoaland. AWA RATINGS: 1-Verne Gagne; 2-Mad Dog Vachon; 3-Bruiser; 4-Crusher; 5-The Sheik; 6-Blackjack Lanza; 7-Doug Gilbert; 8-Killer Kowalski; 9-Reggie Parks; 10-Wilbur Snyder. TAG TEAMS: 1-Bruiser & Crusher; 2-Fritz & Waldo Von Erich; 3-Larry Hennig & Harley Race; 4-Al Costello & Karl Von Brauner; 5-Rip Hawk & Swede Hanson; 6-Ernie Ladd & Bearcat Wright; 7-Spiros Arion & Tony Parisi; 8-The Assassins; 9-Pepper Gomez & Pedro Morales; 10-Kenji Shibuya & Mitsu Arakawa.

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER 1972

MIL MASCARAS WAS the first man permitted by the New York State Athletic Commission to wear a mask in the ring, setting a precedent that is still followed today. (Mascaras defeated The Spoiler, who had, in previous months, been forced to wrestle without his mask.) . . . On the same Madison Square Garden card, WWF champion Pedro Morales turned back the challenge of Ray Stevens . . . Stevens and Pat Patterson failed in their bid to wrestle the NWA tag team belts from Paul DeMarco and Lars Anderson when all four men were counted out of the ring in the third and deciding fall at the Cow Palace in San Francisco . . . Two weeks later, Patterson and Rocky Johnson teamed to take the belts . . . The Sheik, who for years has been barred from New York rings, got a WWF title match against Morales in Boston. After a brutal encounter, in which both men got full use out of a pencil the crazed Arab brought into the ring, The Sheik was counted out . . . Black Gordman and Goliath captured the Americas tag team championship from Ruben Juarez and Eric Froelich in Los Angeles . . . Victor Rivera upset Ernie Ladd to capture the Americas

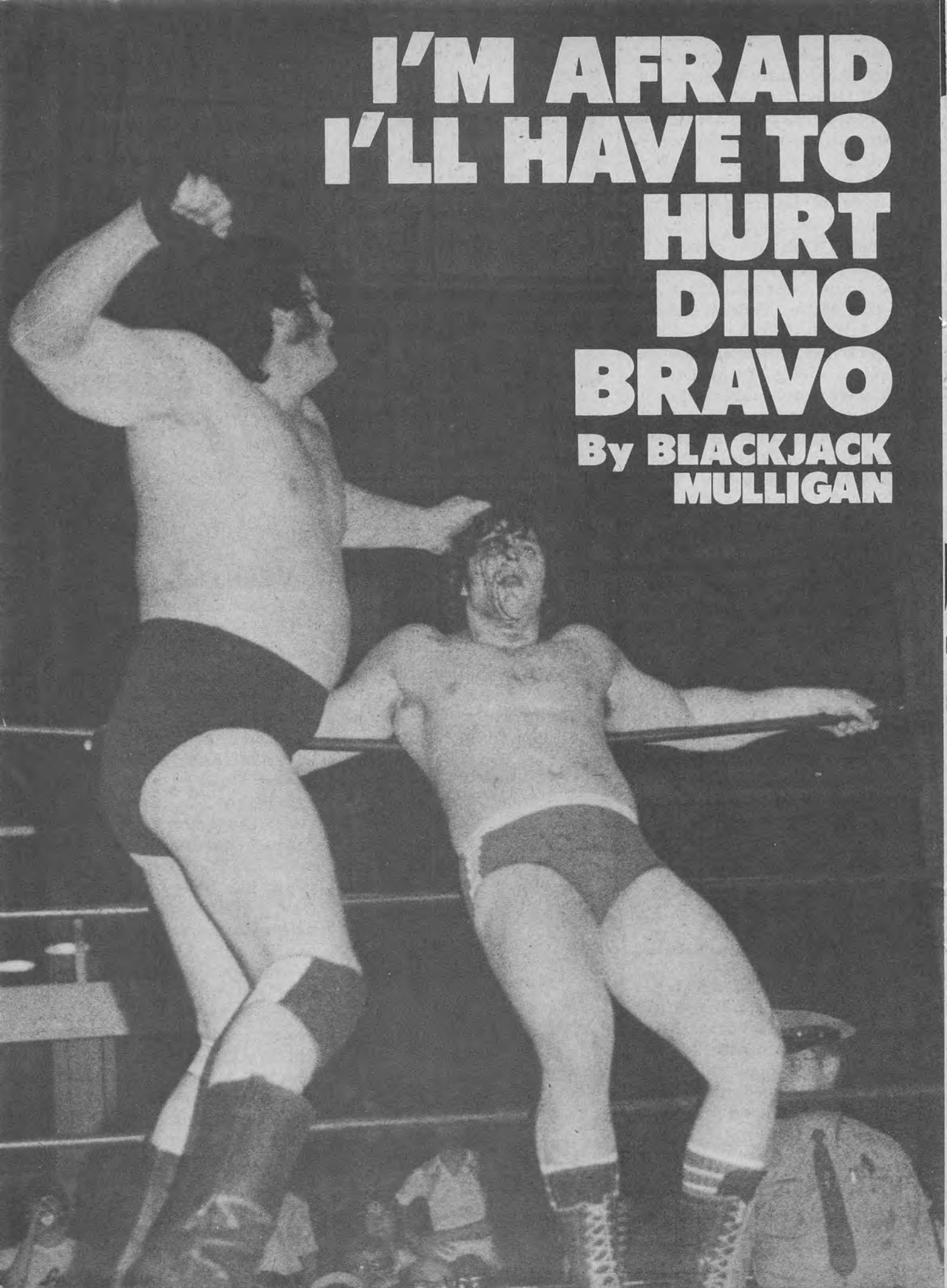
(Continued on page 49)

Black Gordman and Goliath, the ninth-rated tag team in the NWA, captured the Americas tag team championship from Ruben Juarez and Eric Froelich in Los Angeles.

The New York State Athletic Commission made an exception in its policy against masked wrestlers for the great Mil Mascaras.

I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO HURT DINO BRAVO

By BLACKJACK MULLIGAN



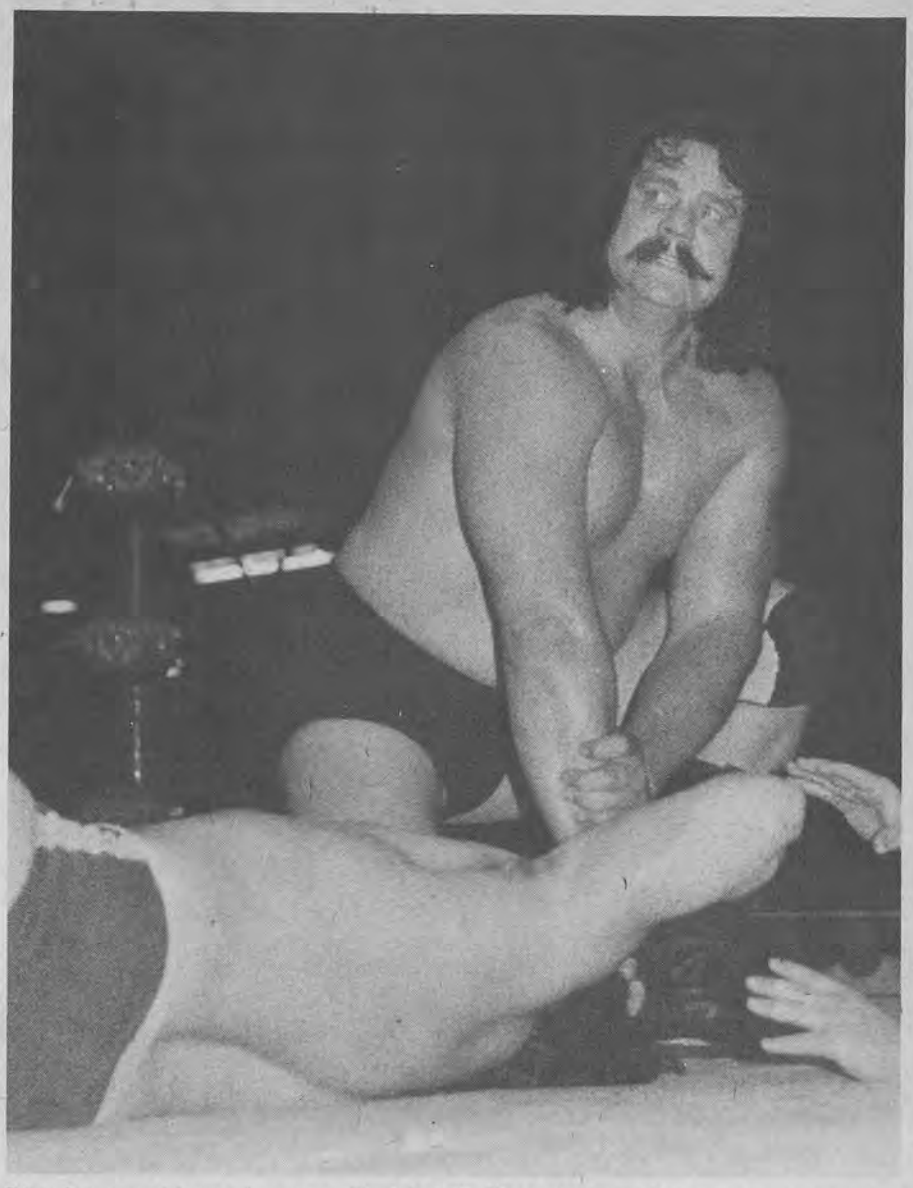
WHAT I HAVE to say is not very pleasant business, but I know it must be said. I'm afraid I'll have to hurt Dino Bravo. There is no getting around the issue. All the facts are in. The judgement has been rendered.

For too long, this sport has had to put up with the petty antics of this young brat. As far as I'm concerned, he is a blight on all of wrestling. It is time to stamp him out, before he is allowed to do any more damage. I worry for all of us.

Ever since he first became a professional wrestler, Dino Bravo has been influenced by the wrong kind of people. He now thinks it does not matter all that much whether you win or lose, just so long as you conduct yourself like a gentleman. What rubbish! I haven't heard so much nonsense since I outgrew Shirley Temple movies. Apparently, Bravo thinks he's still living on the Good Ship Lollipop! I have news for him: the real world is hard and mean. The sun doesn't shine 24 hours a day. And the Good Ship Lollipop was sunk by a landmine in Candyland harbor.

Bravo claims he is a strictly scientific wrestler, and that he would never "stoop to the level of Blackjack Mulligan." Since when is it stooping to reach new heights, far beyond his capabilities. He says he won't wrestle like me because he knows he can't. He doesn't have the talent. So instead, he goes around criticizing me. That's the coward's way of defending yourself.

As far as I'm concerned, Dino Bravo should never have gone into professional wrestling in the first place. He should have picked a far easier profession, one in which he wouldn't have to worry about his safety. Maybe he should have been a referee in the professional tiddlywinks tour. On the other hand, I'm not sure if he has enough intelligence for that.



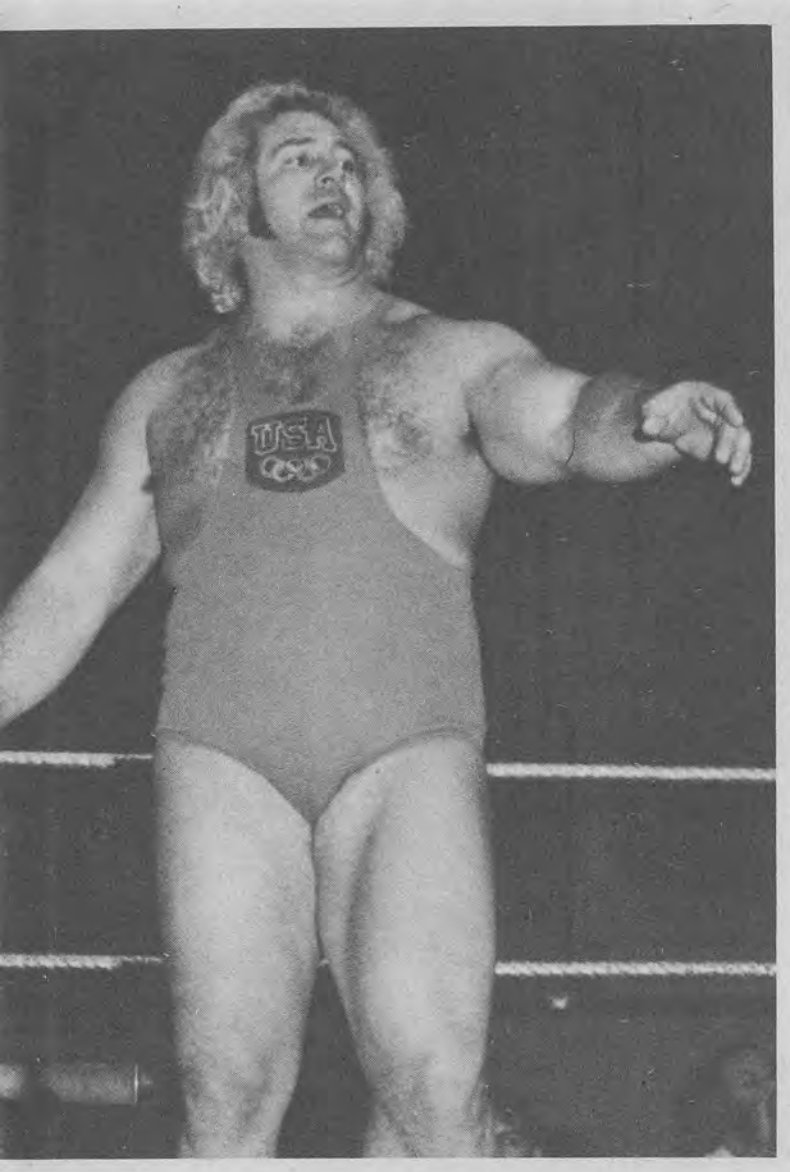
Dino Bravo writhes in agony as Blackjack Mulligan captures the star in an agonizing clawhold. Bravo proved his strength and courage by refusing to surrender and escaping the brutalizing maneuver.

I don't like speaking about anyone in such harsh terms, but in this particular case, I'll make an exception. Dino Bravo has to be taught a lesson, and I guess it's up to me to give it to him. He won't like what I'm going to have to do to him. He may end up permanently injured. I know I'll

(Continued on page 52)

When it comes to hurting people, Blackjack Mulligan is one of the best—or worst, depending on how you look at it. As many people suspected, when Mulligan pretends to show mercy, it's a good time to make sure your insurance is paid up

PHOTOS BY BILL JANOSIK



Left: Amid the jeers of fans, Ken Patera enters the ring to battle Bobo Brazil. Above: He tries to batter Bobo senseless with a flying elbowsmash.

A LE
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USUALLY, A WRESTLING match will place two men of opposite temperaments and styles against each other. This allows for a clear difference, the despised rulebreaker vs. the fan favorite.

And then there is a match which pits two men representing the opposite ends of the wrestling spectrum. In fact, with Bobo Brazil and Ken Patera, they do not occupy merely the opposite ends but the extreme polar caps.

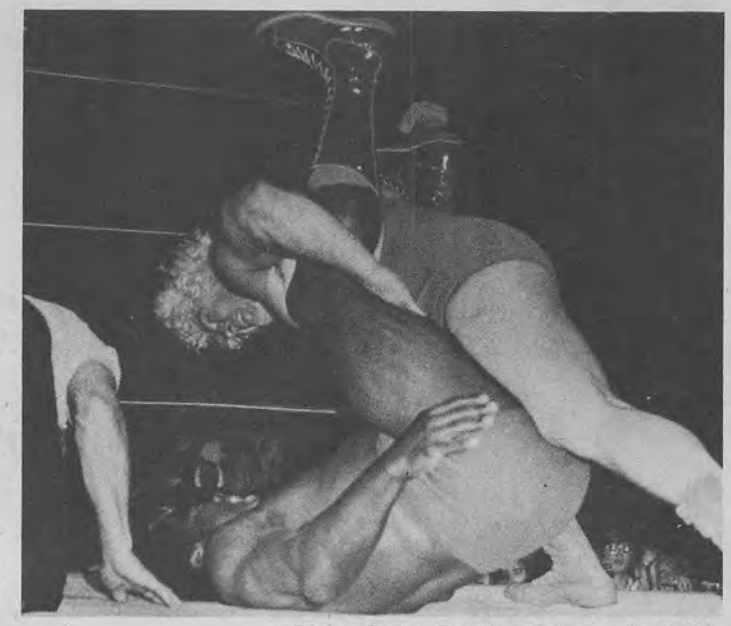
Brazil typifies the gentlemanly decency of scientific wrestling. For Brazil to commit any act of treachery is totally unheard of. He is a fine man. He is beloved by millions. He is what wrestling should produce.

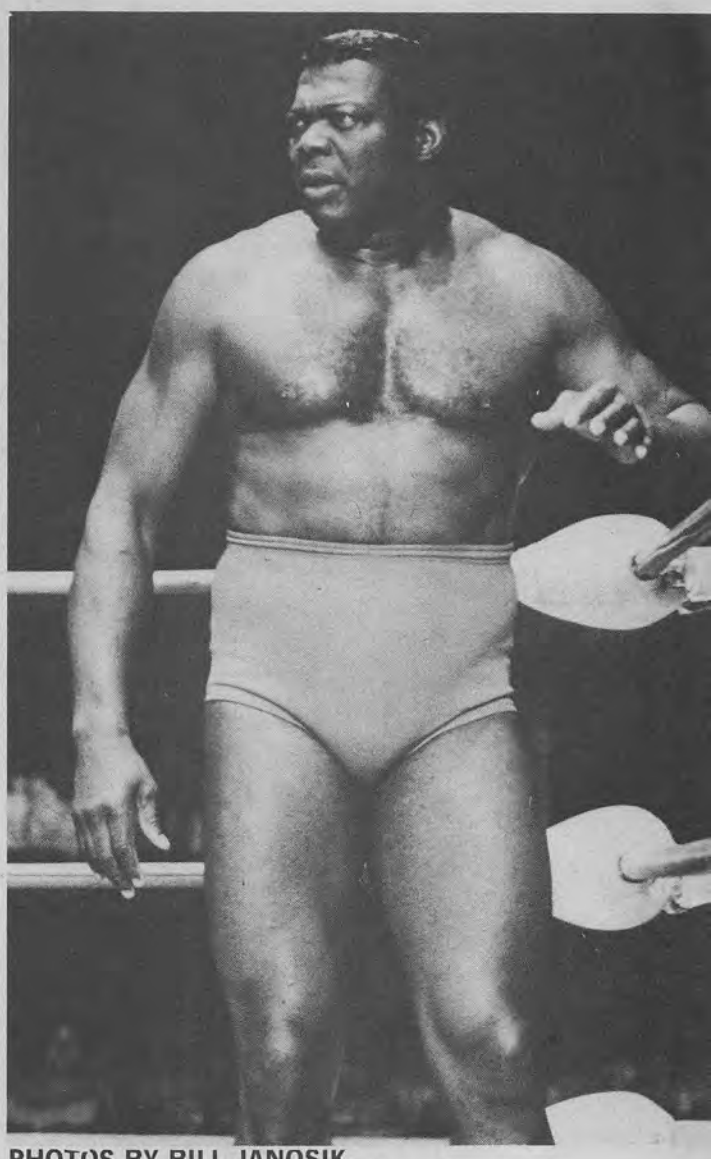
Then there is Ken Patera. He is a cruel, despicable animal. He is capable of the most heinous crimes against humanity. There is absolutely no vicious act which Ken Patera wouldn't do. His sense of fair play is somewhere beneath the one-cell animal and the brown Norway rat. No insult intended for either life-form.

"Wrestling Patera is not a pleasant chore," Brazil said. "He is everything I find repugnant about rulebreaking. I am not given to strong words, but I hate that man. That makes wrestling him interesting, for I cannot think of any other man I would enjoy beating more than Patera."

"Bobo, Bobo, Bobo, cocoa-butt, see my cocoa-butt?" Patera

For two decades, the integrity and dignity of Bobo Brazil has been a beacon of decency for wrestlers everywhere. Bobo hoped by wrestling fairly he could change the ways of Ken Patera by example. Guessing wrong almost cost Bobo his life!





Right: Bobo Brazil comes to do battle against the evil Ken Patera. Left: Ken tires as Bobo keeps resisting the strongman's efforts to pin his shoulders.

SSON ATERA ER LEARN

PHOTOS BY BILL JANOSIK

screamed in the dressing room before the bout as he pounded his head against the wall. That seemed to spur his imagination, so he continued talking. "Brazil is a whimpering, spineless dog. A gentleman? Hah. For some reason people find cowards attractive. I find them contemptuous. See, didn't think I knew words like that. Ah, what do you idiots know.

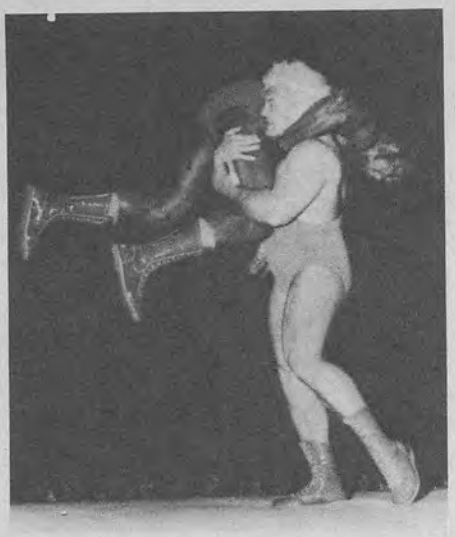
"The fans will cheer for Brazil because they are afraid of me. They wouldn't have the guts to take me on so they send this retread with half a brain after me. Good, I want to wrestle him. I look forward to smashing his ugly black face into the canvas and watching him bleed over his boots. I think he should be beaten because *he* stands for everything I hate.

"Goody-goody little asses who don't have one ounce of guts are his only fans. Bring him on. I'm ready for the swinish worm."

The absolute savagery with which these two men pounced upon each other was unnerving. Brazil found himself at a disadvantage because he believes in using only legal tactics, something Patera is too cruel to understand. Ken immediately used a chair to attack Bobo with. Brazil laughingly evaded this illegal assault and crashed his massive fists against Patera's forehead, knocking the blond rulebreaker to the mat.

"Matches like these frighten

Below: Bobo pulls Ken into position to use his patented "Coco Butt." The tactic will knock Patera to the mat.



Left: Patera pummels Bobo from outside the ring. Above: Ken uses his great strength to his advantage. Below: Patera tries to pull Bobo's arm out of its socket.

me," said Woodrow Percy, a veteran wrestling observer. "Guys like these two have something to prove. When they meet, anything is possible."

Patera and Brazil exchanged verbal insults as they warily eyed one another from their respective corners.

"Come on, you dumb half-breed," Patera cried.

"Try and fight like a man Patera—if you can," Brazil retorted caustically.

Patera lunged for Brazil, wielding a foreign substance which looked from ringside like a sharp metal object. Brazil spun Patera around and ripped the object out of his hands. It fell to the canvas and Brazil kicked it out of the ring. From this point on, the two raged as ferocious a battle as has ever been seen within a squared circle.

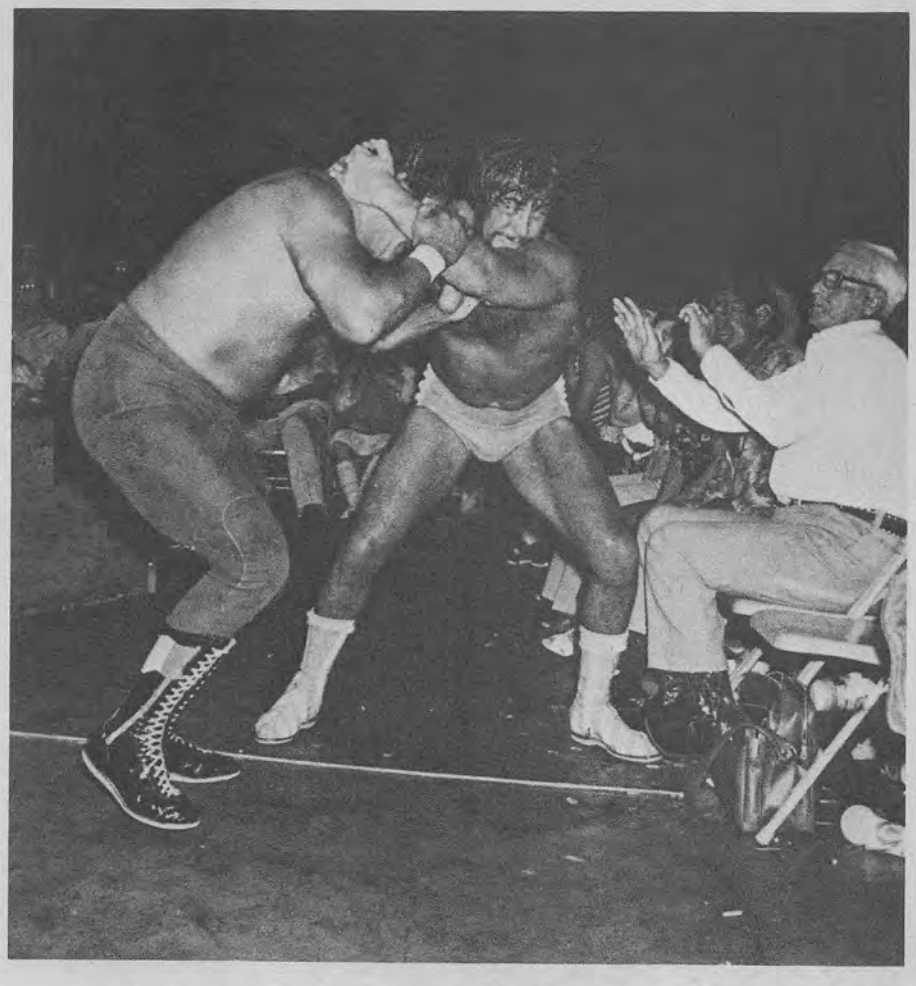
"He cannot fight like a true man," Brazil said afterward. "Men like that always need weapons, because they are afraid of fighting with their bare flesh. I cannot respect creatures like that."

Patera pounded his head against the cement wall.

"Cocoa-butt, Cocoa-butt," he laughed. "Who's afraid of a cocoa-butt? Not I. I'm the greatest wrestler in the world!"

Bobo Brazil vs. Ken Patera. This battle is over. But the war will go on. □

Coloso Colosetti seems intent on sending Jose Lothario into the crowd (right). Lothario bounces back (below, right) and has Colosetti in trouble.



THE NIGHT THEY STOLE LOTHARIO'S HEART

TRAGIC DISBELIEF SCARRED Jose Lothario's expression. Unable to focus his bleary eyes upon a single object, he sat in front of his locker, empty hands twisting as if by sheer struggling, the belt he had held so briefly could be regained.

This was a depressing moment for the rugged wrestler from Texas. He entered the ring hoping to rip the coveted South American heavyweight title from champion Coloso Colosetti. He did.

If only for a moment.

As is so often the case in professional wrestling, sheer physical ability is not enough. A man must do more than just whip an opponent. He must also whip the complicated rules.

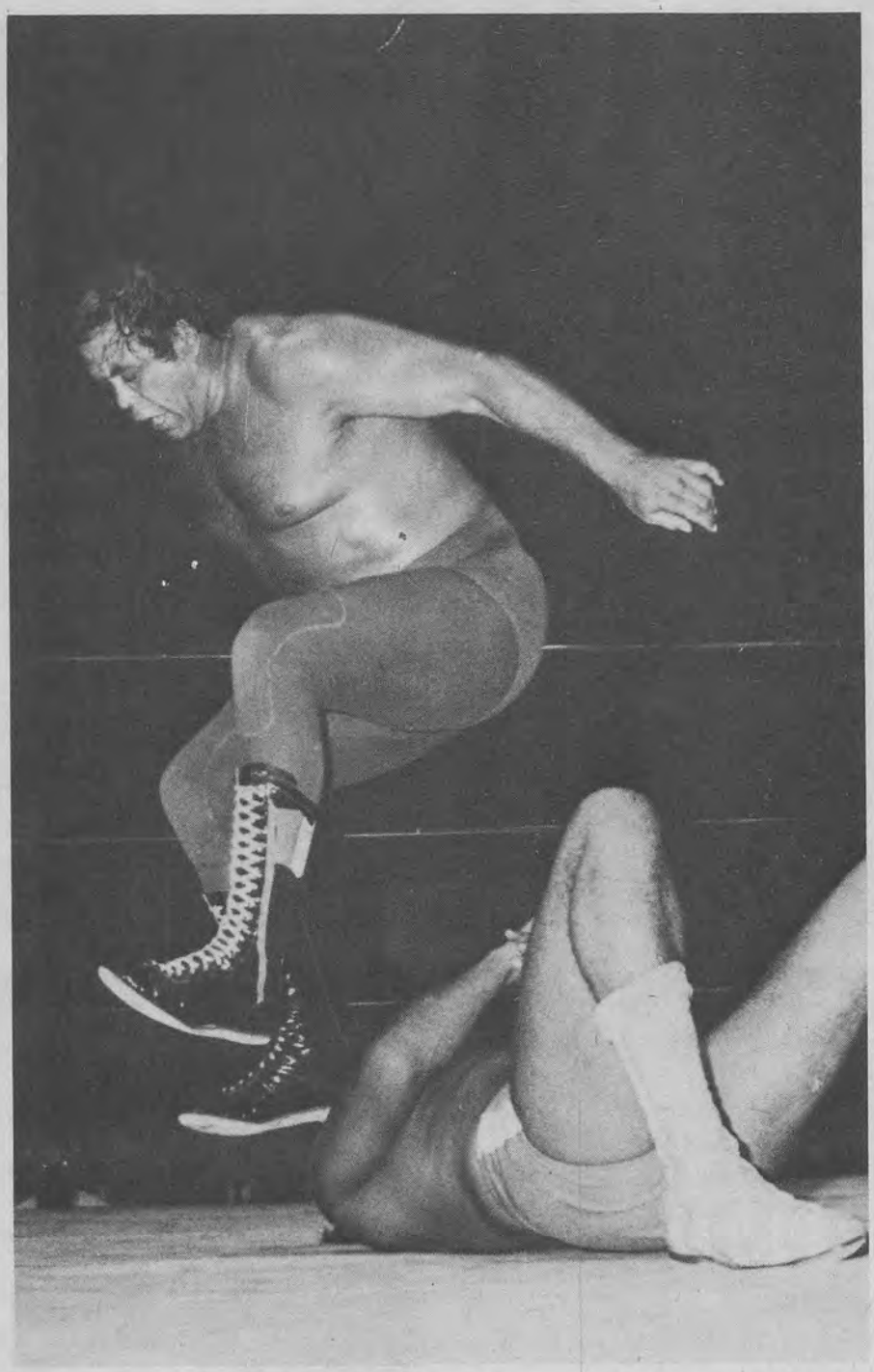
Brilliantly, Lothario accomplished the former. Sadly, he collapsed against the latter.

"I won and they took it away from me," Jose mumbled. "I beat him and they deprived me of my belt. I have dreamed of winning this title for so many years. Then they say I do not qualify to be champion."

Lothario did defeat Colosetti. And then the officials ruled that he was not eligible to be champion.

"According to the rules governing the South American heavyweight title, a champion must live in the area at the time of

Jose Lothario did everything a man can do to win the South American championship. No one denies he won the title and deserves the honor. That isn't good enough. Jose has learned the rules are made to break an athlete's heart



Lothario, ready to win the title he has longed for throughout his pro wrestling career, stomps on Colosetti (above) on his way to victory. Colosetti, flying through the air, (right) is headed straight for the arms of Lothario. Jose did not win the South American title due to a technicality.

the match. He must have lived there for 25 preceding matches. Jose doesn't live in the area and thus he was not eligible to be champion," explained president Alex Rodriguez. "It is a sad mistake, but as much as it may hurt Jose, we cannot change the rules."

A mistake, yes. An error in explanation. Lothario had climbed into the ring hoping for the realization of his dreams.

"This changes the way I look at wrestling. I admit it," Lothario said as he played with the laces of a boot. "I thought there was some honor in wrestling. I thought I could trust people. I think not. Look, I think even the referee knew what was going on.

"A couple of times near the end of the match there were some questionable calls against me, several holds broken up too early. I thought I saw some signaling out of the stands, gestures which I paid no mind to at the time.

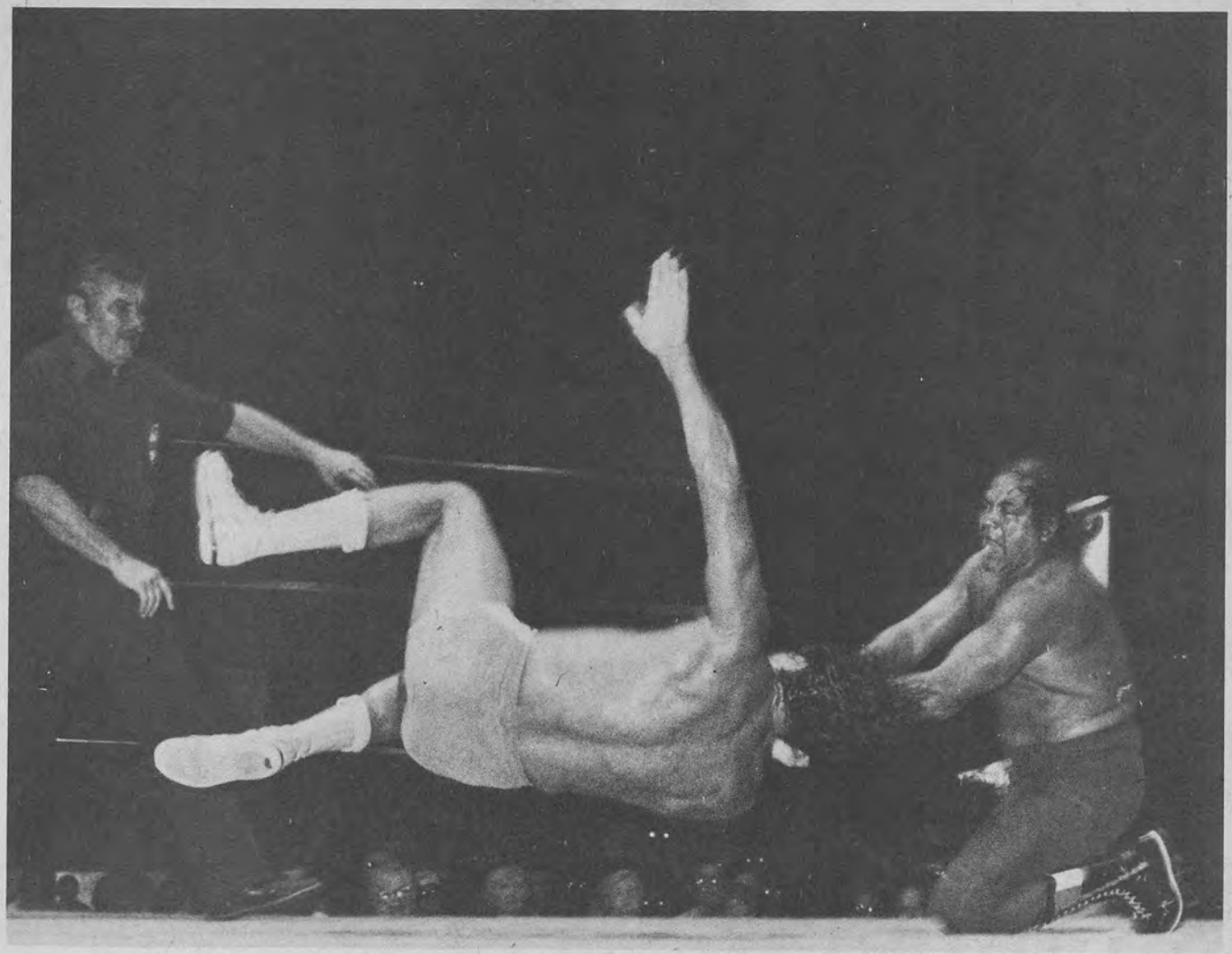
"But in hindsight, putting everything together, I see how things were working against me. I could see that they wanted to avoid any embarrassment they'd have because of a champion who couldn't be champion."

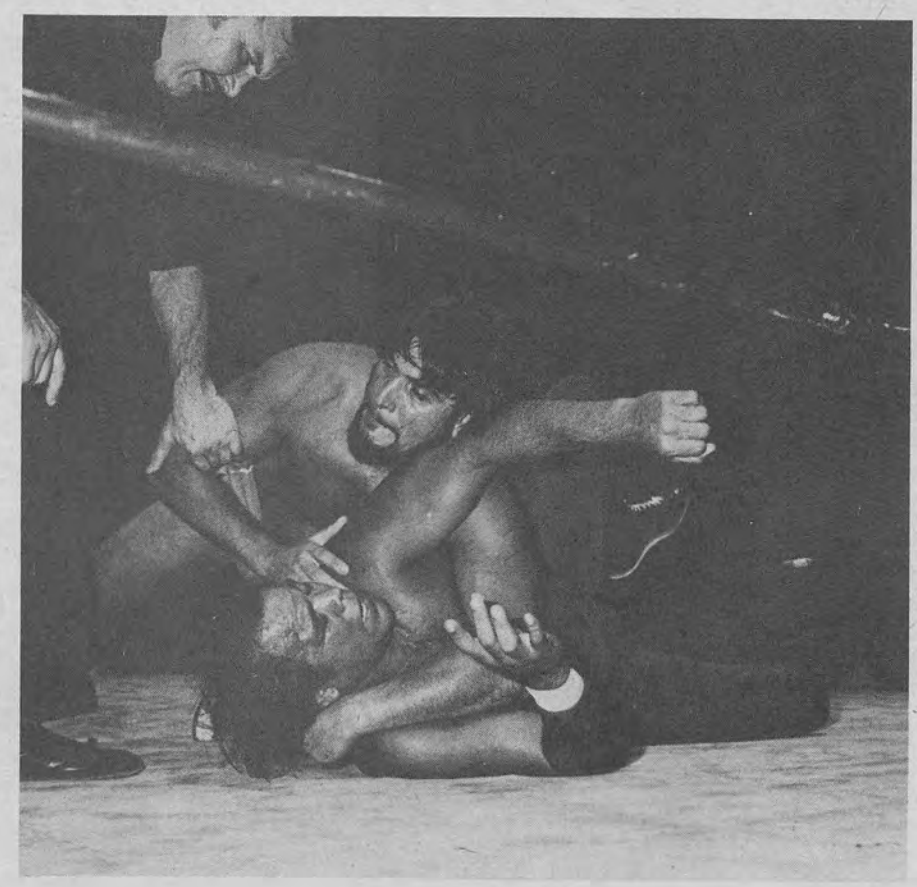
Referee Puma Vergas disclaims any hint of foul play between the ring and league officials.

"Jose won the match. How can there be any wrong doing if he won? What is he talking about?"

That is indicative of Lothario's despair. A rational, moral man, he is not given to fits of accusation. Such outbursts display a bewildered, confused mind.

"I don't know what I'm saying All I know is how hurt I am. I wrestled well, didn't I?" he pleaded, eyes misted, hands clenched and





Lothario, letting out a scream of war (above), sends Colosetti crashing to the mat. Colosetti regains the advantage (left) with rulebreaking maneuvers.

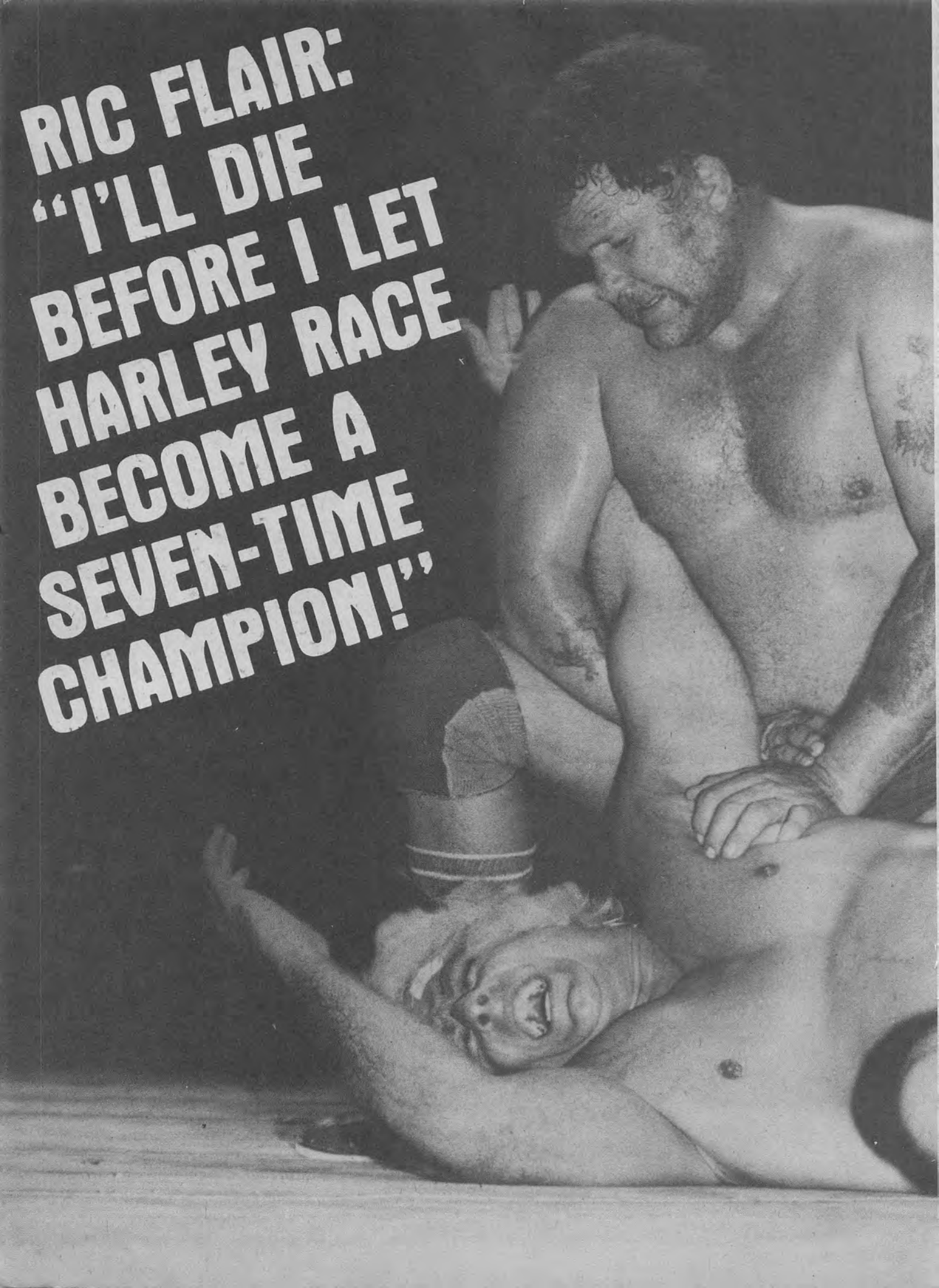
feet nervously pawing at the ground.

That he did. This may have been Lothario's finest hour. Unveiling a formidable combination of grace and brute strength, Lothario overwhelmed Colosetti.

"He wasn't bad," sneered Colosetti. "I think I won. Everyone is gonna feel sorry for him, I know, poor Lothario. I am still the champ. Rules or no rules, I got the belt now," Colosetti held the belt above his smiling face.

Certain things will change. Rules will change, belts will pass on, bouts will be forgotten.

The break in Jose Lothario's heart will never be healed. □


RIC FLAIR:
"I'LL DIE
BEFORE I LET
HARLEY RACE
BECOME A
SEVEN-TIME
CHAMPION!"

NWA champion Ric Flair doesn't want to lose his title to anyone, but he particularly wants to keep the belt away from Harley Race. Flair is a man of determination and pride, and he is not about to let another wrestler use him as a steppingstone to the wrestling record books

By Stu Saks

IT IS A rare opportunity when a wrestling journalist is able to have the NWA heavyweight champion to himself without any other media members around. I was lucky enough to have dinner recently with Ric Flair when he stopped over in New York City en route to Japan.

We sat down at a table in one of the city's swankiest steak houses. "The filet mignon here is superb," Flair told me as I studied the menu, "and don't worry about the price; the meal is on me."

Flair's skills as a wrestler in the ring are only surpassed by his graciousness out of the ring.

Luckily, I anticipated the possibility of not wanting to take notes and brought a tape recorder with me. What follows is a partial transcript of my dinner conversation with Flair.

Q: You flew into New York this afternoon and you leave for Japan tonight?

A: That's right, Stu, it's a pretty hectic schedule.

Q: Is it like this all the time for you?

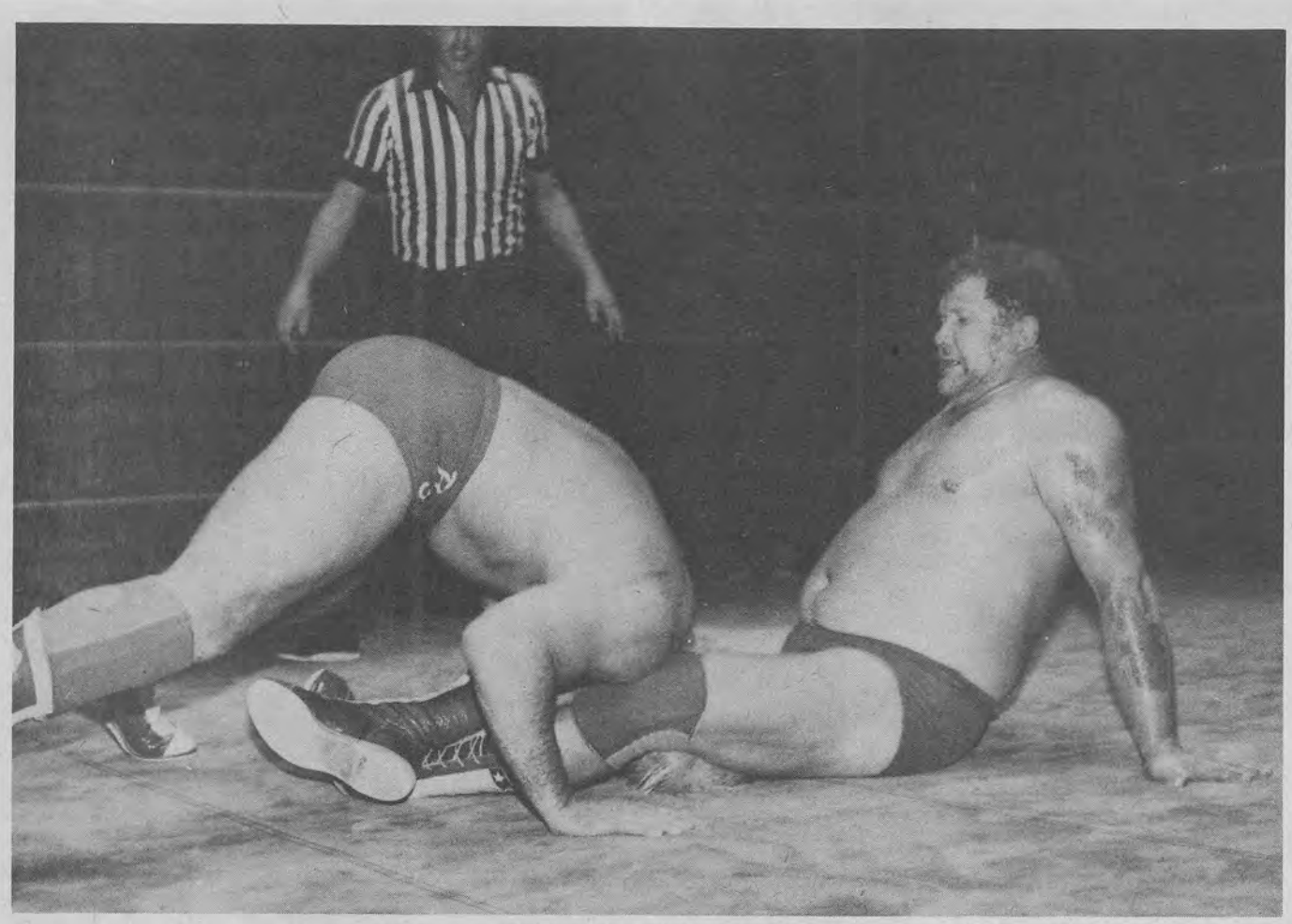
A: Just about. You see, everyone wants a shot at the champion, that's a fact of life. Someone in Georgia wants a title shot, someone in Missouri wants a title shot, someone in Ohio wants a title shot, and someone in Japan wants a title shot. I don't want to build up a reputation for dodging anyone who wants to wrestle for the belt, so I try to accommodate as many challengers as I can. It makes for a lot of travel, and it takes away from a personal life, but that's part of the price you pay for being champion.

As determined as Harley Race is to go into the record books as the only seven-time NWA champion, Ric Flair is equally determined to prevent such an occurrence. Flair does not want to be remembered as the man who made Harley Race an immortal.

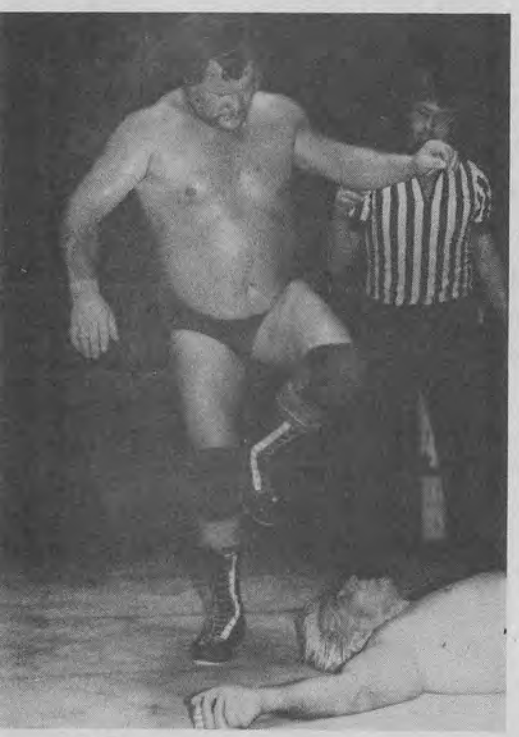
Q: It's interesting that you say that, because you have a reputation for being quite a playboy.

A: I suppose I do, and this comes from the fact that when the rare time comes that I do have a day or two off, I like to spend it in the highest style of

PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROMER



Race ensnares Flair in an inescapable headscissors (above) and prepares to drop his knee across the champion's face (below). Many experts believe a seventh NWA title is Race's fate. Though Flair realizes he will eventually lose his title, he does not want to lose it to Race.



living. Like right now. I may only have a couple of hours between flights, but I'm eating in one of the finest restaurants in the country and enjoying myself as much as possible.

Q: You're coming off one of the toughest title matches of your career, correct?

A: You mean Race?

Q: Yes, your two-out-of-three falls match with Harley Race the other night in St. Louis.

A: I don't know if I would go so far as to say that was one of my *toughest* title matches, but I would say that Race wouldn't have come out looking so good if it wasn't for the time limit.

Q: What do you mean?

A: Look, it was a two-out-of-three falls match. Okay, Race won the first fall, I'll grant him that, he earned it. He wrestled hard for that fall. But I'll be damned if he's going to put my name in the record book in the loss column. I'll die before I let Harley Race become a seven-time champion. So I wrestled like mad in that second fall, and I would have won that fall if it hadn't been for the fact that the time limit ran out on me. Then the third fall would have meant the match, and I sure as hell wouldn't have let Race take that fall.

Q: You sound very upset about Harley Race.

A: Why shouldn't I be?

Q: Is it tougher for you to wrestle Harley Race because of his record of six NWA titles?

A: Let me just say this, Stu. If I lose the belt to Race, everyone is going to remember Ric Flair as the man who gave Harley Race his seventh NWA championship. They won't remember me as the man who has built up the impressive wrestling record that I have. I don't want to be remembered for my one

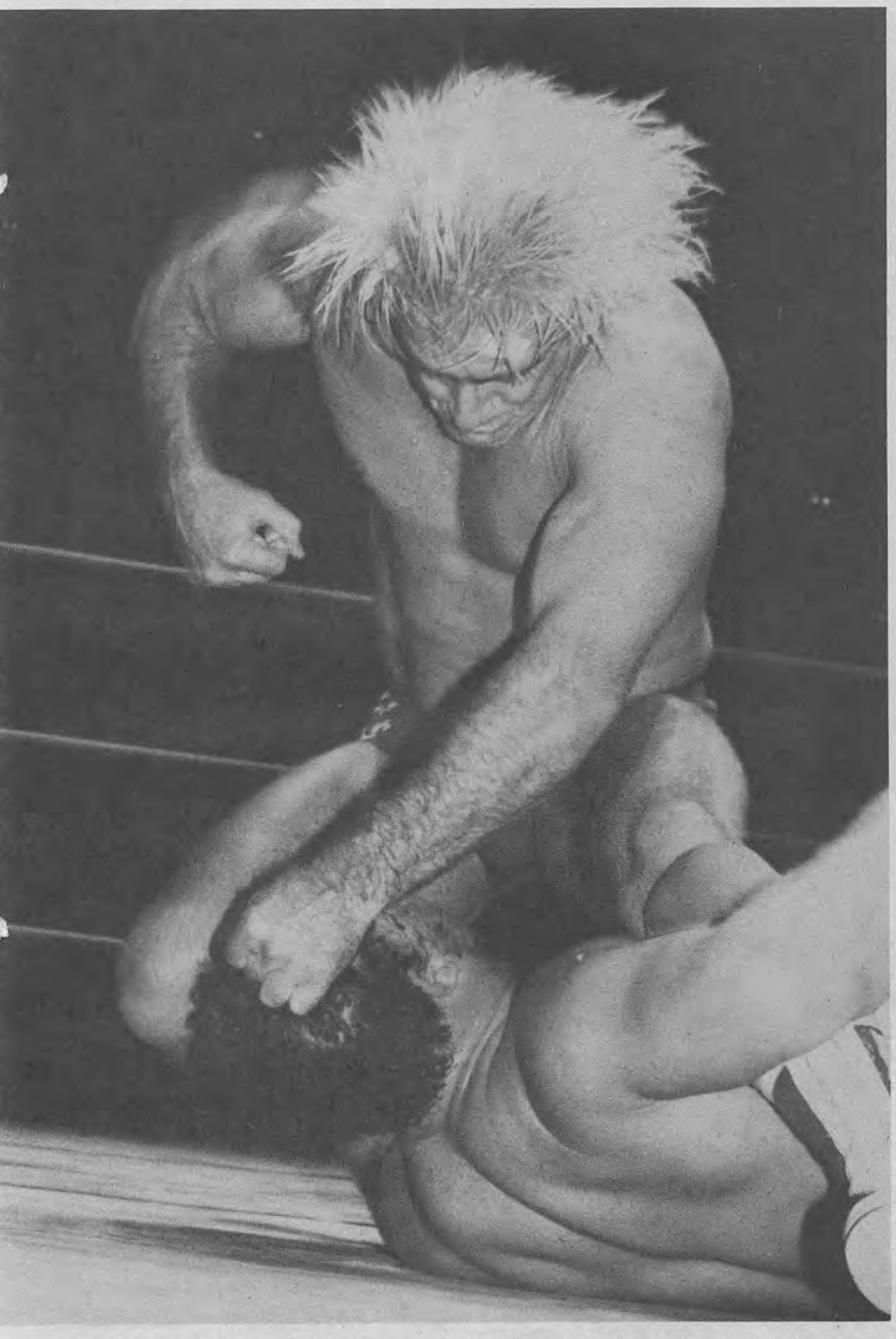
loss as champion, I want to be remembered for my hundreds of victories.

Q: You think a loss to Race would hurt your reputation?

A: In one way, no, because I know I'm going to lose the title someday. It has to happen, I can't hold on to the belt forever. But, by the same token, if I lose it to Race people will talk. Fans have very short memories, they only remember the things they want to remember. Race winning a seventh title is something everyone will remember, and I'm not going to be the one to give it to him, I'm not going to be remembered as Ric Flair, the guy who gave Harley Race a red-carpet welcome into the record books. That'll happen over my dead body.

Q: But you don't anticipate losing the title to anyone in the immediate future, do you?

A: Now Stu, you ought to know me better than that. Of course I'm not going to lose the title. All the major competition in Atlanta has been wiped out, all the major competition in Florida . . . why, I even wrestled the WWF champion, Bob Backlund, and retained my belt. That's why I'm on my way to Japan, to see if maybe there's someone over there who can provide me with enough of a challenge that I would consider the contest a championship match.

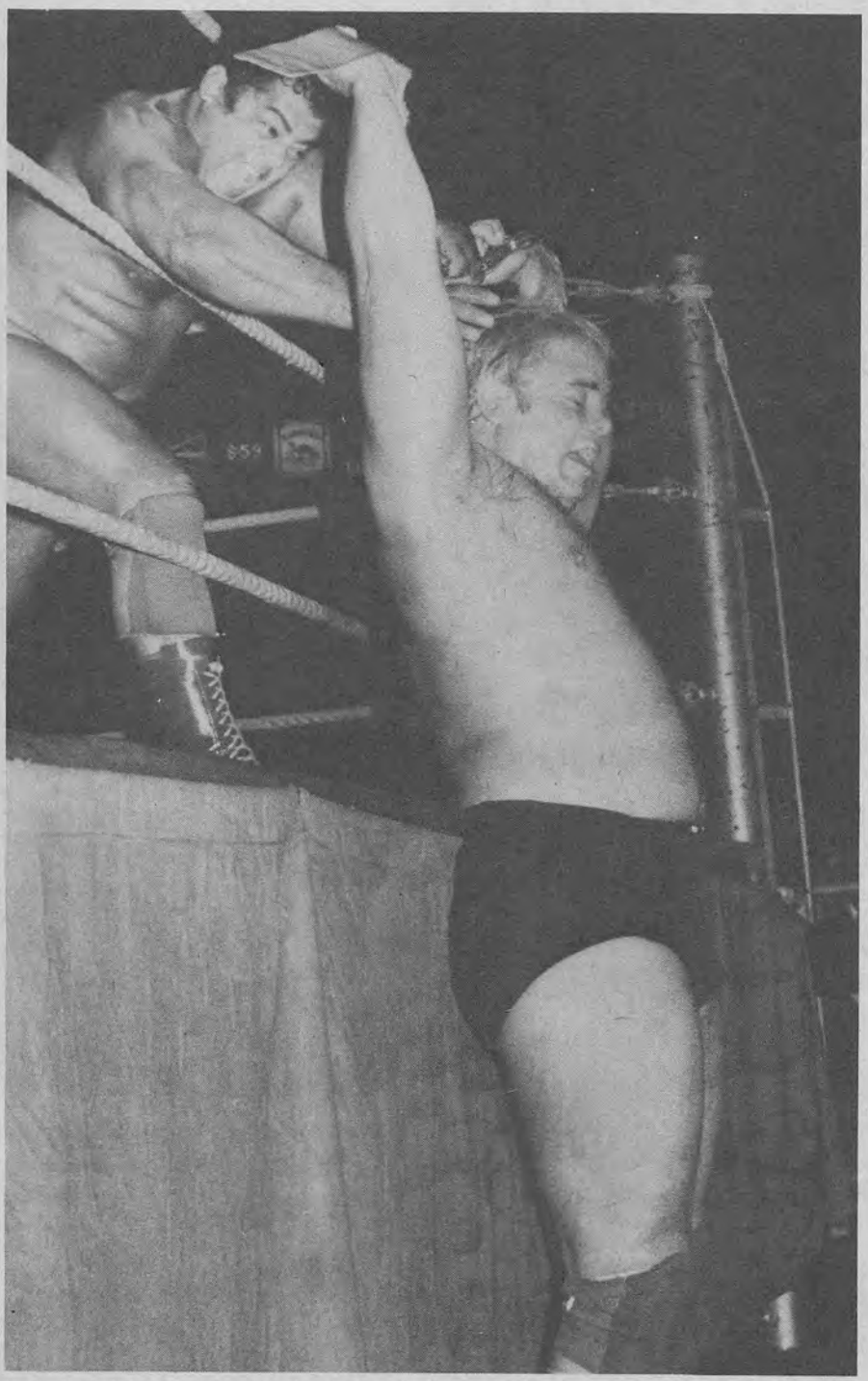


Q: Well, good luck, I know that there are some rugged wrestlers in Japan.

A: Thanks, Stu, I'll let you know how it turns out. □

Flair drives a series of right hands into his fallen foe's face (above). Ric Flair is the winner in this match (top right), but by no means is this the last time he will have to face Race.

Pedro Morales vs. Buddy Rose: AN UNEXPECTED EXPLOSION ROCKS



Rose infuriates Morales by displaying the Intercontinental championship belt for the fans as if he were the winner. The match was a draw.

By Rich Countis

TWO MONTHS AGO, in the December issue of this magazine, I wrote an article entitled "Backlund Breezes By Buddy Rose: The Best Gets Better." In that article, I implied that Playboy Buddy Rose was unworthy of challenging Backlund for the WWF heavyweight title. I implied that Rose was the kind of wrestler any champion would like to have as a challenger.

I have to admit I was wrong.

When Buddy Rose went up against WWF Intercontinental champion Pedro Morales in Madison Square Garden the next month, there wasn't a single fan in the sold-out arena who was more surprised than I was.

The match was slated for a 20-minute time limit. As Rose entered the ring with his entourage, everyone brought out the catcalls. They all expected Morales to defeat Rose with only a minimum of trouble.

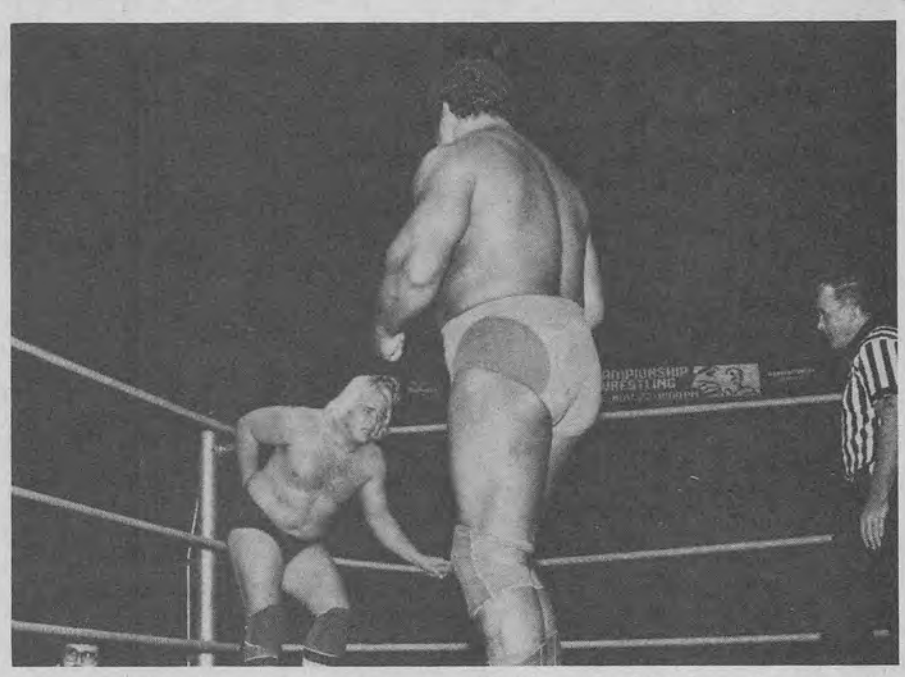
What they didn't expect, and what I certainly didn't anticipate, was the fact that Rose would match Morales maneuver for maneuver, hold for hold. He might well be champion today had the time limit not expired.

"What do people think, that I am a man who does not keep my word?" Rose asked in a post-match interview. 'I won the match, I proved to the people and especially to Morales that

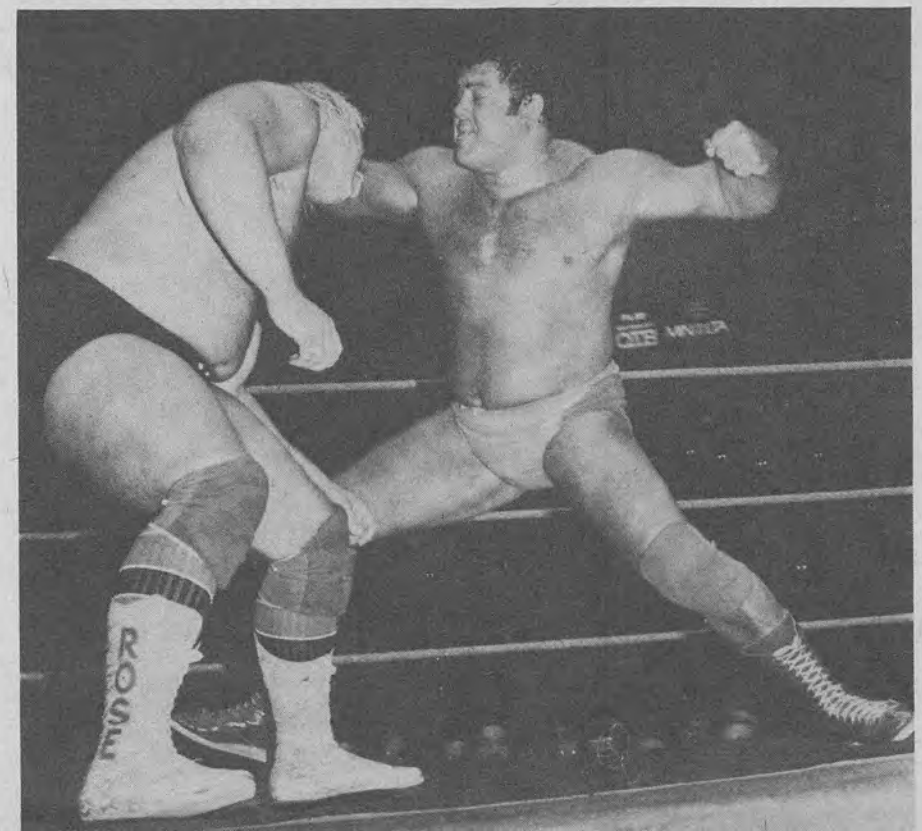
Many fans and media members underestimate Playboy Buddy Rose. Clearly, one person who underestimated him the most was WWF Intercontinental champion Pedro Morales. And it almost cost him his title

THE GARDEN

PHOTOS BY CRAIG PETERS



Rose grabs Morales in a headlock and runs him facefirst into the turnbuckles (above left). The Playboy plays possum in the corner (above right), hoping the champion will move in. Morales unleashes a series of overhand lefts (below).



Playboy Buddy Rose is a man to be treated with respect, and I will gain the title in my next attempt, that's all there is to it."

The match opened with tests of strength, which Rose concluded when he placed the champion in a side headlock. Morales broke Rose's hold and catapulted the challenger into the turnbuckles, doing some considerable damage to Rose's back in the process. Morales followed up with some closed-fist smashes to Rose's head, and it looked as if the challenger would fall to defeat.

But as quickly as Pedro gained his advantage, he lost it back to Rose. Rose caught Morales in a sleeperhold, a tactic he had not yet used in the WWF, and the champion soon felt the strength drain from his legs. This enabled Rose to place a strong side

Rose continually surprised Morales with unexpected holds and maneuvers. The Playboy weakens the champion with a sleeperhold (above) before lowering him to the canvas and applying a powerful headlock (below).

headlock on Morales and maintain it for several minutes.

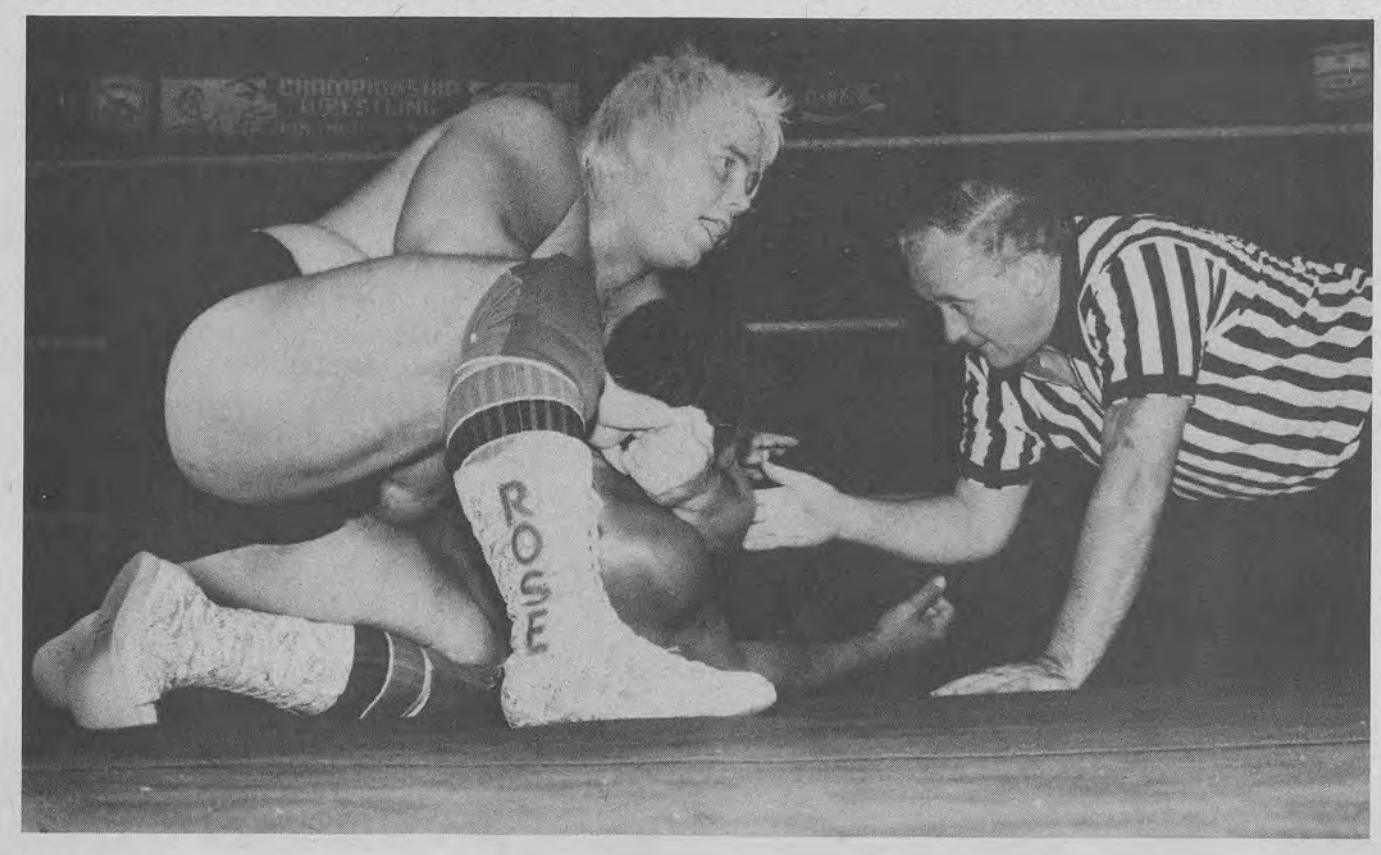
Occasionally, Rose would relinquish the hold and throw Morales to the mat, pinning his shoulders to the canvas for a 2½ count. But Morales always kicked out before the crucial third slam of the referee's hand.

Rose must have achieved over a dozen 2½ counts on the champion, and it appeared to be only a matter of time until the title would be his.

Morales began to regain his energy and the pace of the match soon quickened. As their fury toward each other rose, Morales and Rose grappled like a pair of wildcats, eventually falling out of the ring.

Quick to capitalize on the situation, Rose alertly attacked Morales and bodyslammed him on the concrete floor. Stunned, Morales fell victim to yet a second bodyslam outside the ring, and Rose returned to the squared circle to avoid a countout.

But Morales was not about to be counted out, either.



Scrambling to his feet, the Intercontinental champion also made his way back to the ring, where once again the two combatants squared off for action.

Yet this phase of the match would not last very long. Rose was able to gain several more 2½ counts, but less than two minutes after both men reentered the ring, the timekeeper's bell marked the conclusion of the 20-minute match.

The bout was declared a draw.

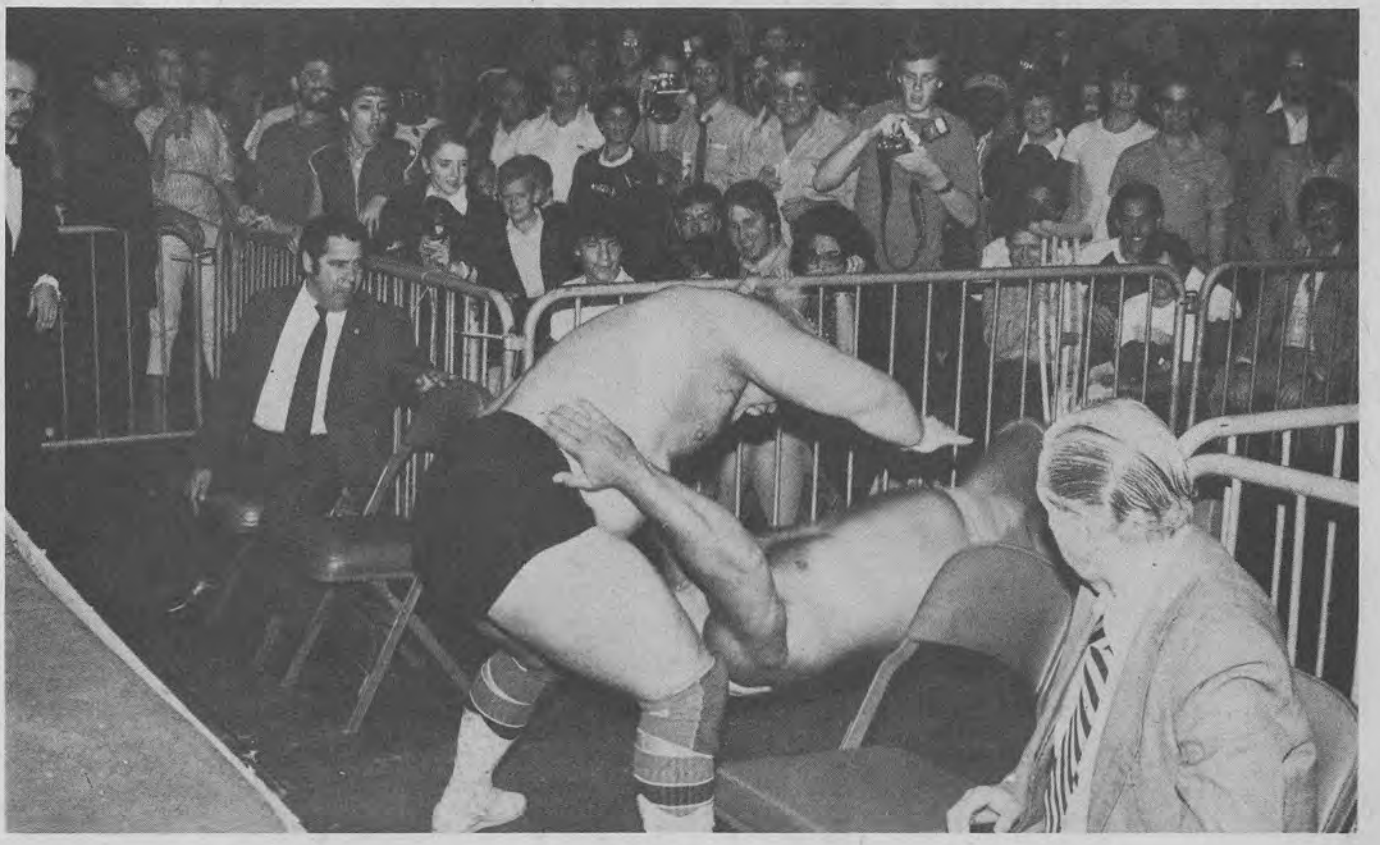
Rose, however, felt that achieving a draw was equal to victory, and he picked up the Intercontinental belt and, turning his back on the ring, held it high for the fans to see. Morales was not at all pleased with this desecration of his championship, and he attacked Rose from behind.

"That was real brave of Morales, wasn't it?" Rose later asked. "He's quite a brave guy to attack me from behind. Well let me tell you something, he's also quite a stupid guy. He signed for a rematch right after the match. It didn't take him more than five minutes back in the dressing room area to sign another contract for another match with me with no time limit, and that I assure you will be the biggest mistake Pedro Morales has made in his entire professional wrestling career."

Frankly, I never believed Playboy Buddy Rose could take Pedro Morales to the time limit, but he did. I suppose if he could achieve a draw with Morales, he could also defeat the champion in a no time-limit contest.

There may be a lot more to the man known as Playboy Buddy Rose than anyone suspects. □

Morales lies on the Madison Square Garden floor after being flung through the ropes by his challenger (above). Rose follows Morales out of the ring and bodyslams him on the concrete floor (below). Moments later, the 20-minute time limit expired.

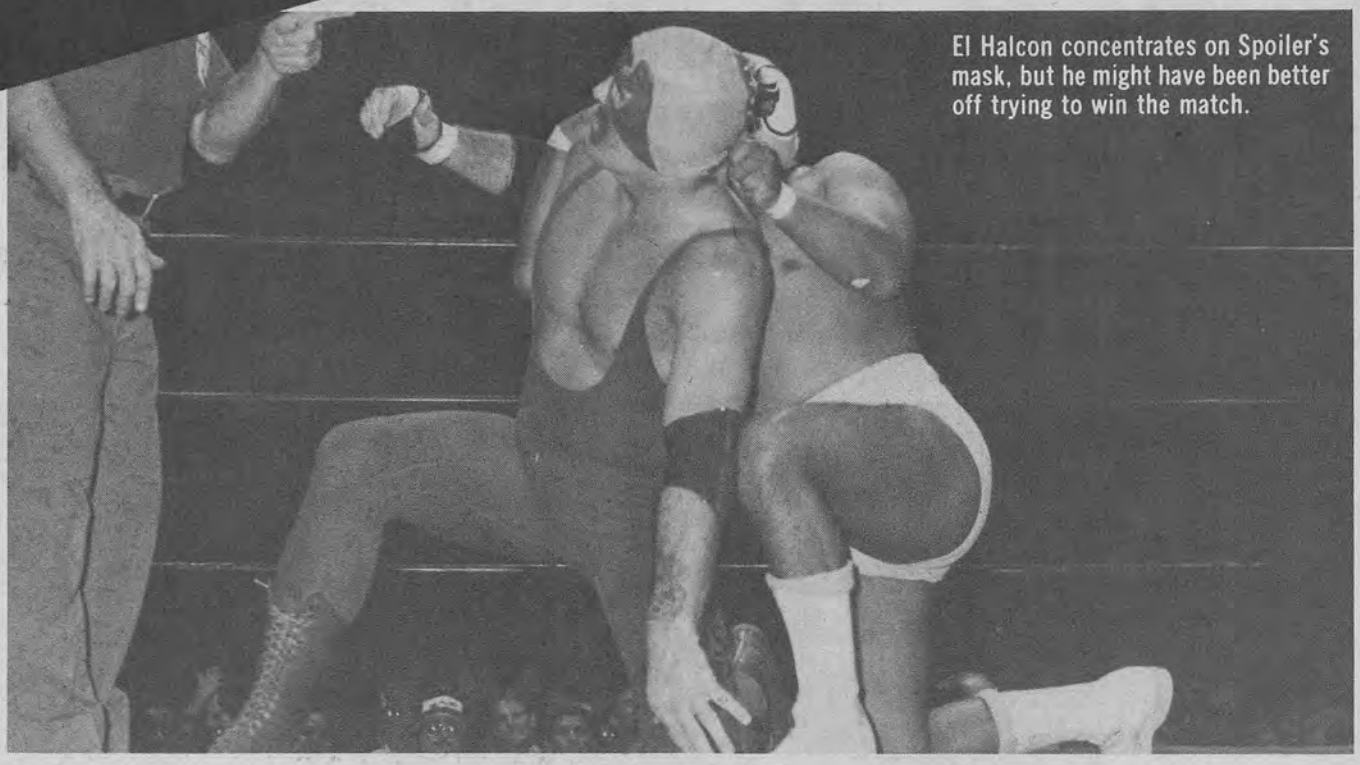


THE SPOILER

"THERE SHOULD BE NO MASKED W EXCEPT FO

The mere mention of another masked wrestler brings Spoiler's blood to the boiling point. But when he gets into the ring with one, he turns into a crazed animal. He feels there is only one man worthy of a mask, and he intends to run the "imposters" out of the sport

The Spoiler has made well known his feelings on other masked wrestlers, but it is El Halcon who is trying to remove Spoiler's mask (above left). Halcon hits Spoiler with a flying bodypress (above right).



El Halcon concentrates on Spoiler's mask, but he might have been better off trying to win the match.

RESTLERS R ME!"

Spoiler, the loose strings of his mask dangling, attacks Halcon with a chair outside the ring. Spoiler said he gets very upset when people confuse him with other masked wrestlers. He would like to destroy them all.

"WHAT'S IT LIKE wearing a mask?"

Spoiler's black eyes glared from within their masked facade. His thin, cruel lips pursed, rough, coarse hands clenching into thick balls of resentment. Suddenly, his massive body relaxed from its inner tension, though a finger pulled at the lower part of the mask.

"That's typical of you idiotic reporters," Spoiler said, his voice edgy, yet quiet. He paused, scratching his masked chin and glancing up at the far wall. It was barren, chalky-white, paint peeling off and littering the frayed remains of the blue carpet. This was The Spoiler's personal locker room. This was as close to revealing his personal likes and dislikes as he permitted.

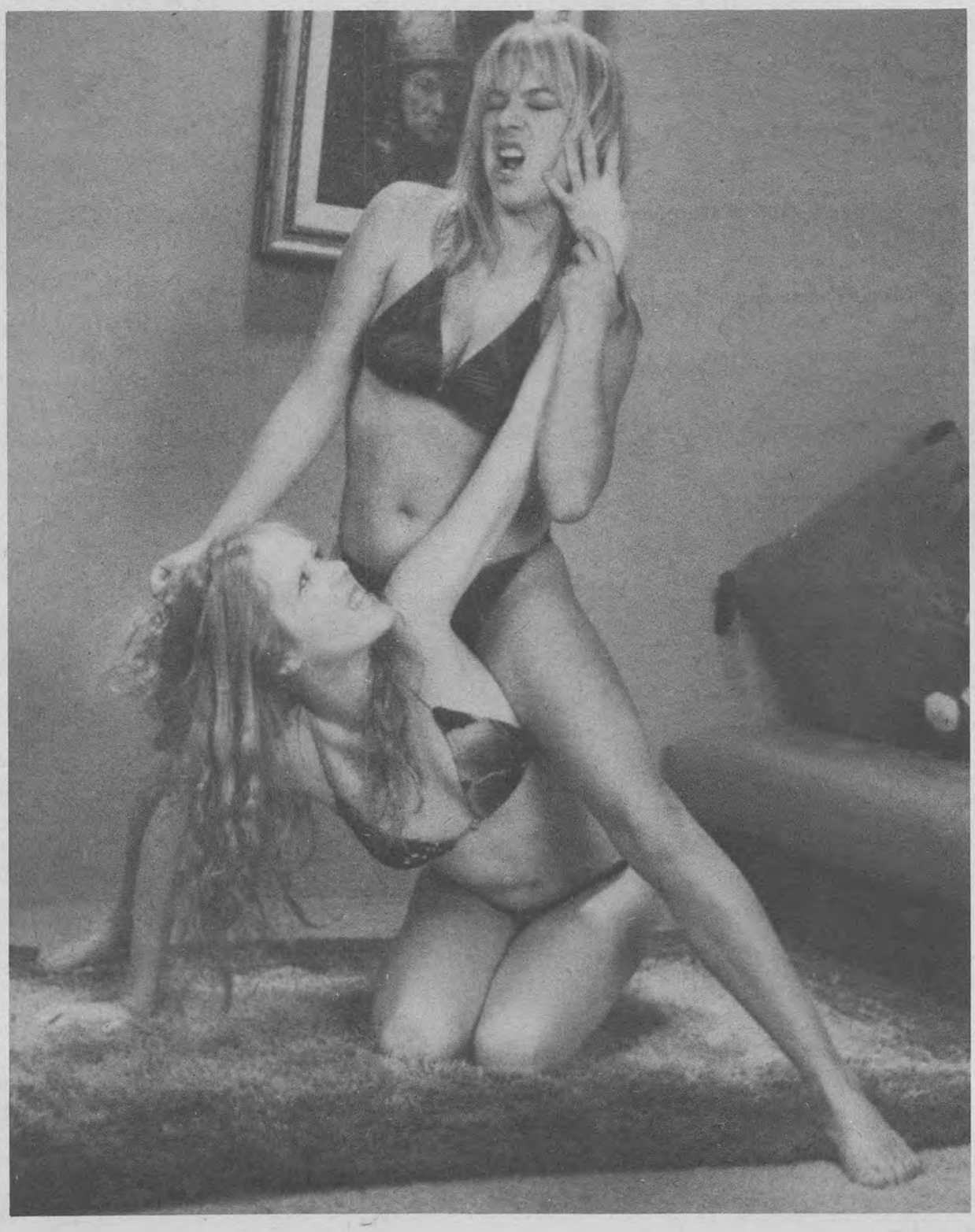
Except for two chairs, a clock and a battered cereal bowl, the room was empty. The tape recorder whirred, eerily consonant with the Spoiler's hoarse breaths.

"You guys pretend to cover a sport you know nothing about." His voice rolled, gaining anger. "A mask is a personal thing. It sets your character and marks you as a real man. What bugs me are the

(Continued on page 56)

The Shocking Truth Revealed

THE MOST IN APARTMENT



FEARED WOMAN WRESTLING!

Diago lifts Vivian's right arm and directs her attack at her opponent's underarm, one of the most vulnerable areas of the human body (above). Mercilessly, Diago attacks from behind, ripping a clump of hair from Vivian's head (opposite left). A worried-looking Vivian struggles to free herself from her tormentor's muscular legs (top right). The spectator on the couch seems unfazed.

IT WAS THE hour of the night when truths seem to reveal themselves, frightening and full blown. There were seven men sitting around a table in a penthouse that also served as an after-hours club. They should have gone home long ago; each man knew he would pay for this the next day. The next day didn't seem to matter.

An elderly, elegant gentleman stared into his snifter of brandy and watched candlelight dance through the crystal. The men had been talking about an apartment wrestling match they had just witnessed. It had been the most horrifying athletic spectacle any had ever seen.

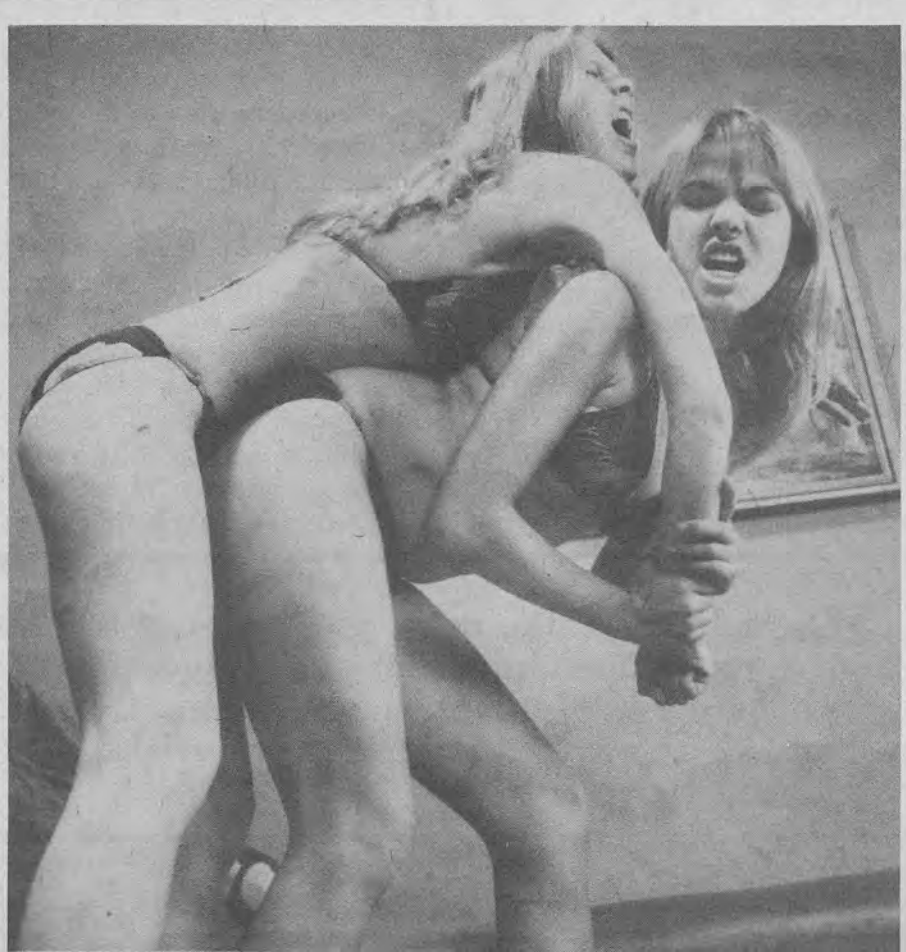
The other men were looking to the elderly gentleman to sum up the whirlpool of emotions swirling within them. As a boy, he had seen catfights in France during World War I and had become fascinated by the unique sensations stirred by women in battle. During the Spanish Civil War, he stood in horrified wonder as the women camp followers from each side would tend the wounded and often engage in battles more

Once in a decade, perhaps even once in a lifetime, an apartment wrestler comes along who is so savage, so brutal, she immediately is set apart from the average competitor. Diago was one such woman. And Vivian was the unsuspecting vixen who attempted to cut her down

gifted, or even the most intelligent. She may not even win most of her matches; victory doesn't mean that much to her. Once, while I was living in Paris after the Great War, I met a woman much like Diago. She was the most feared woman in the *fille de guerre* held in the Rue de Malesherbe. Remember, these were women hardened by war, a bloodbath on a scale they would never be able to comprehend. Yes, this woman—her name was Moutarde, I'll never forget—was the most fearsome of them all.

"Her gift—or her curse—was her ability to ignore pain. She was inhuman that way. Wrestling her, an opponent once told me, was like trying to battle a machine. Even if you beat her, there was no joy in victory. There was a sense she could not be truly beaten, and every opponent felt victory was simply a reprieve from the most frightening of defeats. Moutarde was a warrior throughout her very being; there was never a

(Continued on page 58)



Diago's aerial attack has Vivian cowering in fear (above). In one of her few effective offensive efforts, Diago thrusts her derriere back into her opponent while stretching the pained blonde's arm against her shoulder (right).

furious than the one that had just occurred. If any man could give some reason to the apartment wrestling match they had witnessed, this gentleman could.

He took a sip of his brandy, devoting his full concentration to its taste. Then, with a sigh and the faintest smile, he announced, "Gentlemen, Diago is the most dangerous apartment wrestler we have ever seen.

"This is not to say she is the best, or the most naturally

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THE TATTLER

(Continued from Page 8)

The stipulation of one fall was made to ensure that there would be a decisive victor in the contest.

Following the Strongbow's victory, Captain Lou Albano announced that he was stepping down as manager of the former champions. "They didn't listen to me at all in that match, they wanted to follow their own strategy, I told them what I wanted them to do, Saito didn't listen to me at all, and that's that. If they don't want to listen to the Captain, to the man who made them champions in the first place, then we'll see how good they do on their own. The hell with them."

The Strongbows, meanwhile, were jubilant as they strapped the belts around their waists.

"This is the best thing to happen to us," said Chief Jay Strongbow. "We had the belts before, but were disgraced by the controversy surrounding the match. Now we have won the belts without any doubts. We have saved face. We can go home with our heads held high."

—Paul Dreiser

KANSAS CITY, MO—NWA headquarters here is in an uproar over the recent actions of Terry Funk. This former NWA heavyweight champion has had a replica of the NWA championship belt made and has sent the following letter to promoters around the world:

Dear Sirs,

This is to inform the promoters and the sports media throughout the world that I have been repeatedly denied a chance at the NWA heavyweight championship. I feel that I personally have been discriminated against due to my superior wrestling ability.

NWA TITLE CLAIMANT TERRY FUNK

Moguls, millionaires, and conglomerate corporations of the profession have avoided my talent. I feel that Ric Flair is inferior to me in every way. Therefore, as of October 26, 1982, I am laying claim to the NWA title.

I am now taking bookings as the World heavyweight champion (claimant). If you wish dates, pictures, or tapes on such a talented person as myself, please contact me by phone or letter at my home or office.

Sincerely,

Terry Funk

World Champion (claimant)

P.S. This includes Bockwinkel and Backlund.

NWA officials are unsure as of press time as to how they will deal with Funk. One official was quoted as saying, "Funk is a madman, and a madman is not easy to control. We'll have to think long and hard about this before we take any positive action."

—Buddy Ford

ST. PAUL—Adrian Adonis has been spotted in AWA arenas repeatedly substituting for Jesse Ventura in matches where Ventura had been scheduled to wrestle. This has sparked rumors that the former AWA tag team champions may soon be together again.

Adonis has been suspended from wrestling in the AWA, but a loophole in the regulations allows Adonis to wrestle as a substitute.

ADRIAN ADONIS

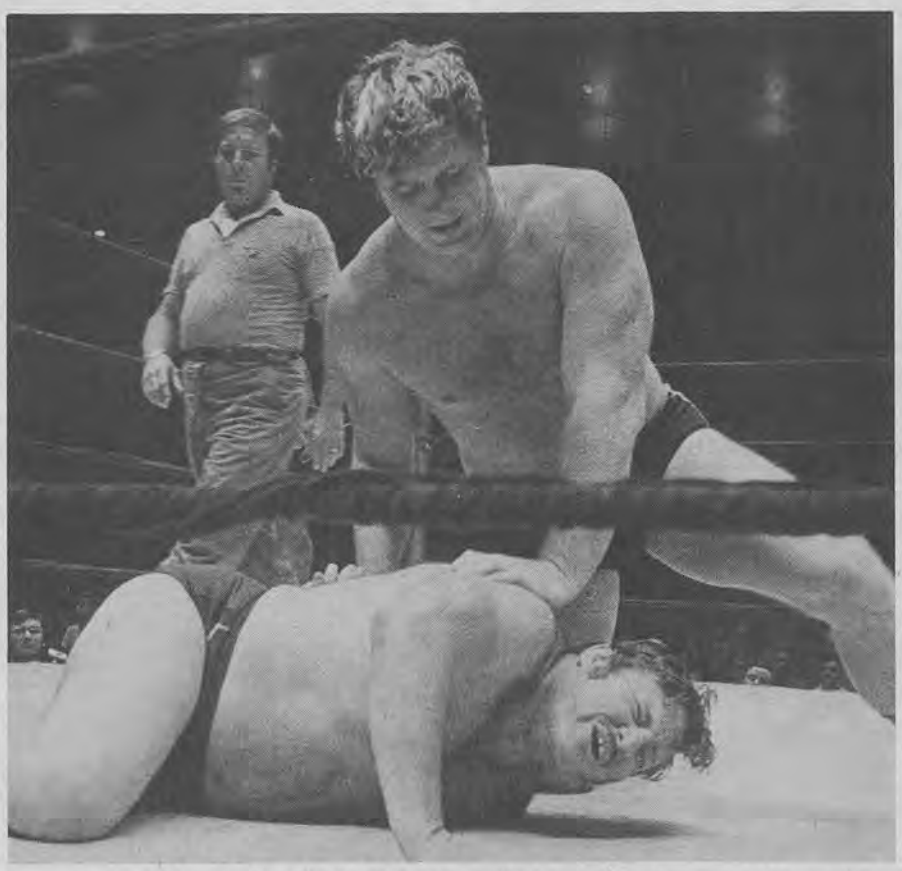
"I really couldn't care less whether or not Adonis and Ventura get together again," said Greg Gagne, who currently shares the AWA tag team championship with Jim Brunzell. "Let the AWA allow Adonis to wrestle normally or let him team up again with Ventura. It doesn't matter to us. They haven't got any chance of taking the belts. Jim and I aren't afraid of them at all."

Neither Adonis nor Ventura were available for comment.

—Charles F. Amberson □

SCRAPBOOK

(Continued from Page 25)



Terry Funk, making his New York debut along with his father, Dory Funk Sr., applies a hammerlock on Kangaroo Don Kent. On the same historic card, Verne Gagne made an AWA title defense against Buddy Wolfe.

singles title . . . Jose Lothario won a three-man elimination tournament over Johnny Valentine and Stan Stasiak in Fort Worth, Texas, to earn a shot at NWA champion Dory Funk Jr. . . . Spiros Arion won the Austro-Asian title from Brute Bernard . . . More history was made at Madison Square Garden when Verne Gagne defended his AWA title against Buddy Wolfe and Dory Funk Sr. and Terry Funk made their New York debuts . . . Haystacks Calhoun eliminated Paul Jones and Buddy Colt to win the second annual 20-man Battle Royal in Tampa . . . Superstar Graham eliminated Billy Robinson and Ivan Koloff to win a 12-man Battle Royal in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada . . . On the same card, Dory Funk Jr. defeated Gene Kiniski, the man from whom he had originally won the NWA title. NWA RATINGS: 1-Dory Funk Jr.; 2-Ernie Ladd; 3-Pampero Firpo; 4-Bobo Brazil; 5-Pat Patterson; 6-The Sheik; 7-Paul Jones; 8-Jack Brisco; 9-Terry Funk; 10-Lord Al Hays. WWF RATINGS: 1-Pedro Morales; 2-Bruno Sammartino; 3-Ray Stevens; 4-Chief Jay Strongbow; 5-Black Gordman; 6-Buddy Wolfe; 7-Sonny King; 8-The Spoiler; 9-Tony Garea; 10-El Olympico. AWA RATINGS: 1-Verne Gagne; 2-Billy Robinson; 3-Ivan Koloff; 4-Wahoo McDaniel; 5-Dusty Rhodes; 6-Dick Murdoch; 7-Rene Goulet; 8-Larry Hennig; 9-Magnificent Muraco; 10-Lani Kealoha. TAG TEAMS: 1-The Kangaroos; 2-Prof. Toru Tanaka & Mr. Fuji; 3-Blackjack Lanza & Blackjack Mulligan;

Blackjack Lanza and Blackjack Mulligan, rated third in the world, were hated twice as much when wrestling as a team than as singles.

4-Rocky Johnson & Pat Patterson; 5-The Fargos; 6-Ray Stevens & Nick Bockwinkel; 7-Dusty Rhodes & Dick Murdoch; 8-Sonny King & Chief Jay Strongbow; 9-Goliath & Black Gordman; 10-The Stomper & Ben Justice.

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER 1977

PETER MAIVIA, depressed after failing to win the WWF title from Superstar Graham, contemplated retirement . . . AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel announced his

(Continued on page 50)

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SCRAPBOOK

(Continued from Page 49)

intention to defend his belt in Toronto on a regular basis... Bruiser captured the WWA crown from Ivan Koloff... Mr. Fuji broke the neck of preliminary wrestler Romano Bellusci with his "kamikaze clothesline" maneuver... The NWA lifted the temporary suspension that barred Steve Keirn from wrestling on televised matches in Florida. The suspension was handed down when Steve used some very unsportsmanlike tactics during a television match against Ivan Koloff!... Don Leo Jonathan expressed his desire to team with Jimmy Snuka... Dick Murdoch cheated the North American title from Jerry Oates... The Valiant brothers issued a challenge to AWA tag team champions Greg Gagne and Jim Brunzell... Harley Race almost lost his NWA title to Jumbo Tsuruta in Japan... Larry Zbyszko was granted a license to referee in the WWF. How ironic!... Mr. Wrestling II and Tony Atlas formed an exciting tag team... In an incredible display of strength and will, Superstar Graham escaped a Chief Jay Strongbow sleeperhold by rising to his feet and flipping his challenger over the top rope. The Superstar retained his WWF title via countout... In what will always be remembered as one of the bloodiest matches ever to take place in Canada, The Sheik and Abdullah the Butcher were both disqualified... After the WWF placed an indefinite suspension on Ken Patera for crippling three opponents with his swinging neckbreaker, the organization levied a mere $5,000 fine and reinstated the rulebreaker... For the second time in a year, Greg Valentine and Ric Flair won the NWA tag team belts from Gene and Ole Anderson... Bob Backlund moved into the number-one challenger's position for Superstar Graham's WWF belt... NWA

There were no holds barred—and no weapons barred—when the Sheik met Abdullah the Butcher on a bloody Sunday afternoon in Toronto.

RATINGS: 1-Harley Race; 2-Rocky Johnson; 3-Terry Funk; 4-Ric Flair; 5-Dusty Rhodes; 6-Dick Slater; 7-

Many fans criticized the leniency of the WWF for lifting Ken Patera's suspension after levying a mere $5,000 fine.

Paul Jones; 8-Lars Anderson; 9-Jack Brisco; 10-Jimmy Snuka. WWF RATINGS: 1-Superstar Graham; 2-Bob Backlund; 3-Mil Mascaras; 4-Dusty Rhodes; 5-Ivan Putski; 6-Ken Patera; 7-Spiros Arion; 8-Chief Jay Strongbow; 9-Peter Maivia; 10-Tony Garea. AWA RATINGS: 1-Nick Bockwinkel; 2-Billy Robinson; 3-Ray Stevens; 4-Verne Gagne; 5-Larry Hennig; 6-Super Destroyer; 7-Jim Brunzell; 8-Greg Gagne; 9-Blackjack Lanza; 10-Bobby Duncum. TAG TEAMS: 1-Mr. Fuji & Prof. Toru Tanaka; 2-Ric Flair & Greg Valentine; 3-Greg Gagne & Jim Brunzell; 4-Gene & Ole Anderson; 5-Paul Jones & Rick Steamboat; 6-The Valiant Brothers; 7-Ivan Koloff & Mr. Saito; 8-Jack & Jerry Brisco; 9-Chief Jay Strongbow & Peter Maivia; 10-Jose Lothario & Alberto Madril. □

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I'LL HURT DINO BRAVO

(Continued from Page 27)

Mulligan towers on the top rope, ready to leap and crash down on the fallen body of Dino Bravo.

have to hurt him badly. But he'll end up a better person in the end. I'm sure of that.

With a little luck—after he is released from the hospital—Bravo will find himself another profession. There's always a need for people to weave baskets. He would be quite suited for that line of work. However, if he doesn't have enough intelligence to choose another line of work, I do believe he will become a decent wrestler—if he learns that winning is everything; that rules are made to be broken.

My time is valuable, so if I must take this job, it will have to be done quickly. Out of the kindness of my heart, I will forget the three times we have already wrestled. I understand that he probably bribed the referees or something so he could appear to defeat me. I will not give him a chance to do that this time. He will be on his own, and I will have to hurt him.

I don't want anyone to get the impression that I like the duty I see before me. It is just that I understand what must be done, and I can't think of anyone more suited to do the job. Who else could convince this oversized child that the fantasy world he lives in is not what wrestling is all about? No one. That is why I have taken this burden upon myself. I want to make wrestling good for the rest of us.

The action becomes wild and furious as Bravo pounds Mulligan, even the victim is outside the ropes!

Would that I could find some other way of doing this. But Bravo is too stupid to be reasoned with. He is too set in his ways to be changed by gentle persuasion. He must be hurt. It is an unpleasant duty, but I am willing to do it—for the sake of wrestling.

To be sure, I ask everyone to forget any previous encounters I have had with Dino Bravo. I do not ask this because I lost those matches (since I feel I really didn't lose them at all), but because they are not accurate gauges by which to judge what I will do to Dino Bravo to teach him a lesson he will never forget.

I'm afraid I'll have to hurt Dino Bravo. But I'm doing it for the good of wrestling. ☐

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The Inquiring Reporter

(Continued from Page 18)

Sir Oliver Humperdink certainly makes himself useful to his wrestlers. After Jack Brisco is thrown from the ring by Paul Jones, the manager kicks the former NWA champion in the face.

Claude Roberts, Dayton, OH: "Most wrestlers who have a manager really don't need them. I don't understand why there are so many managers in wrestling. A man like Sir Oliver Humperdink doesn't help the men he manages at all; he's not doing a single thing to improve their skills in the ring. A man like Bobby Heenan just causes trouble. And someone like Sonny King just stands there and watches while the men he supposedly manages wrestle. I think managers are useless."

John Arthman, Chattanooga, TN:

"Wrestling managers perform a valuable function to the men they manage, as long as they don't allow themselves to get too greedy. They give their wrestlers a viewpoint that nobody else would be able to give them because they observe them wrestling night after night after night. The manager is able to see trends in a man's wrestling that might indicate ways to improve that wrestler's style overall."

Arnold Skoaland spends several hours every day on the phone with promoters trying to arrange matches for Bob Backlund. Would the WWF champion have time to do this himself?

Oliver Manson, Miami: "I don't know if managers are really *necessary* to wrestling, but they bring a wrestler's expertise to the job of booking matches, training, financial handling, and the other countless details of maintaining a wrestler's career. Sure, there are other people who could handle those details, like outside bankers and accountants, but it's better if the person who handles all that has a knowledge of wrestling as well. Managers aren't absolutely necessary, but I think they make a lot of things a lot easier for most wrestlers who have them." □

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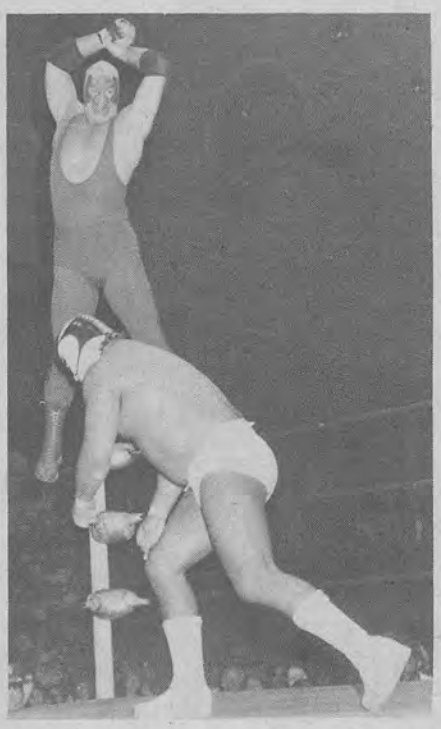
THE SPOILER

(Continued from Page 43)



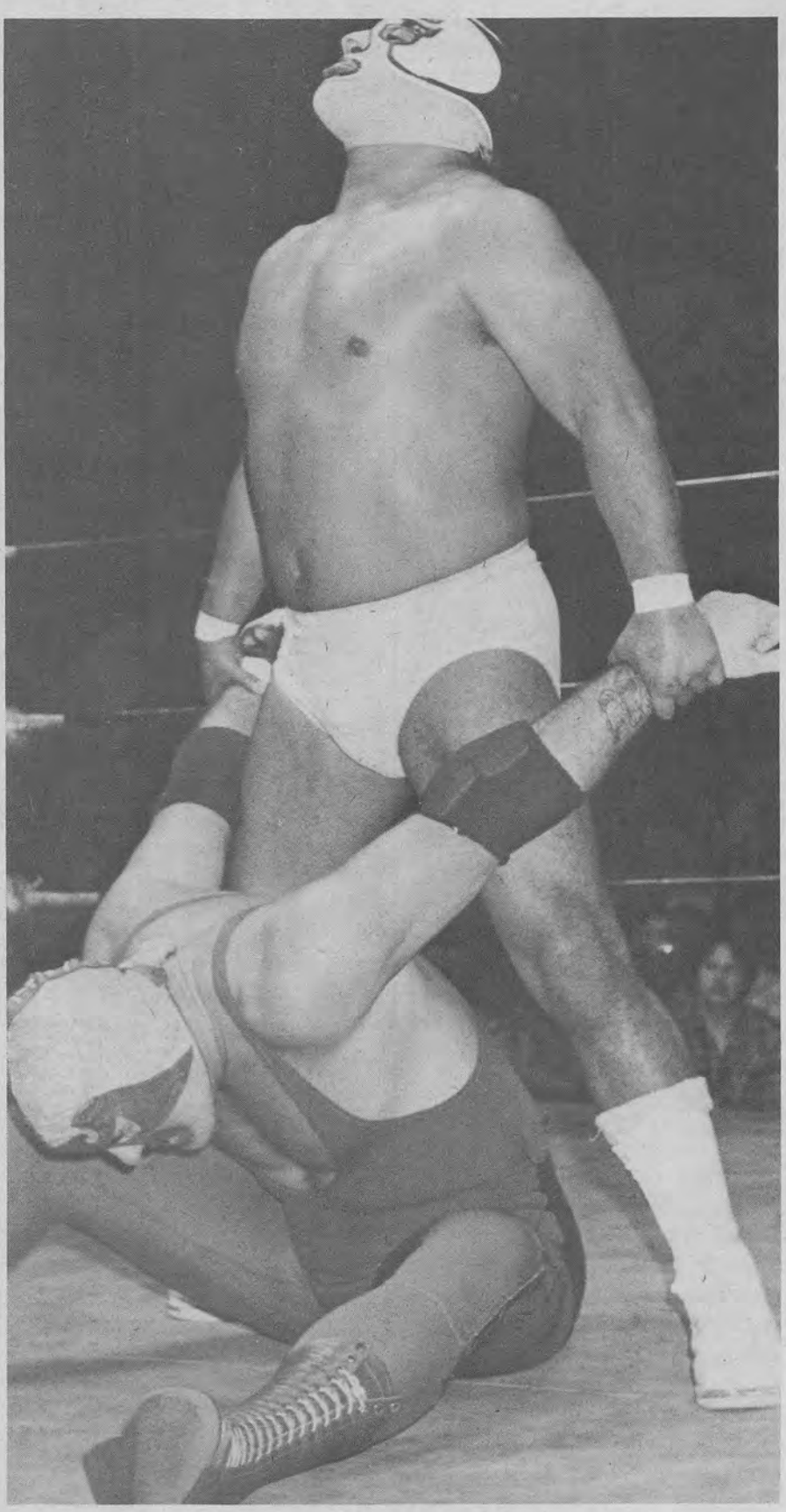
twerps who don masks, men who bring disgrace to the only real masked wrestlers around.

"Me. There should be no masked wrestlers except for me." Spoiler rose and paced crazily, his heavy breathing rumbling about the silent room. Whirling, Spoiler hurled his blackish glower in a mad arc, bouncing off the ceiling, the floor, a wall, finally resting, partly from exhaustion, partly from indecision, on the interviewer.

"Piddling minds may interpret this as egotism. Hardly," his voice lowered into a thoughtful whisper. "This was a logical process I followed. I use experience and perceptions. Allow me to show you the way."

Spoiler smiled humorlessly and sat down.

"I had the trying experience of wrestling some cretin named El Halcon," Spoiler said gently. "Perhaps he thought the mask would give him magical powers. You know, a magic wand turning a frog into a prince. In his case, he remained a frog. An awkward frog who couldn't turn on his hind legs, much less compete with me.



Spoiler takes aim at a staggering El Halcon from the top turnbuckle (above left). Halcon holds Spoiler in a painful crucifix (above). Despite Spoiler's feelings of superiority, Halcon certainly gave the more experienced wrestler a good battle.

"I spent the entire match chasing the untalented monkey around the ring. That was a waste of my spare time. I could have been doing other things, inventing something, perhaps," Spoiler said shrugging.

"El Halcon is typical of people who think they can be more than they are. Another example is Mil Mascaras, the man of a thousand brain cells. For the illiterate out there, surely the majority, the human brain has billions of brain cells. Mine a few more. You can appreciate how stupid Mascaras must be," Spoiler grinned viciously.

"I usually don't like wrestling masked wrestlers. Firstly, they're so jealous of me that they try and pull my mask off. I'd sooner die than allow that to happen," Spoiler said, hands clenching. "Then I must contend with their continued cheating.

"In a strange sense, it's my fault these things happen. I am untouchable in the ring. No one has ever defeated me fairly. Therefore, I drive these brutes into fits of frustration. They must find some way to stop me and, since they have IQs of 27, on the average, they cheat," Spoiler said, gesturing emphatically.

"This gets very disturbing. Fans confuse me with men like Mascaras, El Halcon, and Mr. Wrestling II. It's a horrible insult," Spoiler rose, his body quivering with rage. "How dare they confuse me with low-lifes. How dare they allow anyone to wear a mask.

"I am the only true masked wrestler. This must stop. If I have to get rid of them myself, I will do it. I cannot allow the other masked wrestlers to stay alive." Spoiler grabbed his chair and hurled it against a wall. It crashed to the floor in a splintered heap.

"Now leave," Spoiler said, turning his back. The door closed quietly, the thud lost within the fiendish laughter bouncing off the naked walls in the empty room. □

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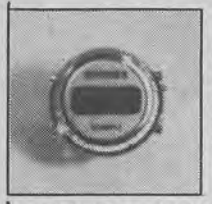

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APARTMENT WRESTLING

(Continued from Page 46)

Inspired by the cruelty of her opponent, Vivian reaches for Diago's windpipe. For a few moments it looked as if the gorgeous blonde underdog could overcome the savagery that has made Diago one of the most feared apartment wrestlers.

moment of rest or gentleness with her. A friend of mine lived with her for almost a year; yes, we did things like that in Paris during the '20s. At the end of that year, he went to Switzerland. I never knew why he went and never saw him again.

"I heard about Moutarde again when I was in Paris with American Intelligence during the spring of 1945. Through an acquaintance of a friend, we heard how Moutarde met her death. She was shot in the back by a Nazi soldier. This isn't a Nazi torture story, however. She was shot while in the process of killing a German soldier with her bare hands. With her teeth, she had torn out the soldier's throat.

"I find myself remembering Moutarde when I watch Diago wrestle. I know that in the horrible circumstance, she too could rip out a man's throat with her teeth.

"It's strange that the two women look so little alike. Moutarde had the body and fullness of a peasant. She was enticing rather than attractive. Diago is conventionally pretty; at moments she is beautiful. Her blonde hair hangs lank about her face, making it rounder and harsher. I don't think she does this on purpose—her appearance is of no concern to her whatsoever. Physically, she has mean features.

"Gentleman, we are here tonight because we need the sense of a common humanity. Diago is what we fear within ourselves and within others; she is the ferocity of human cruelty brought to the surface. She is the beast within us unloosed, and there is no more terrifying sight in the world. I have lived a long and full life, and I have only hated a few people. I hate Diago."

As he said it, each man at the table knew he too hated this woman. It was apartment wrestling on a whole new plane: Usually, these women aroused

(Continued on page 62)

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APARTMENT WRESTLING

(Continued from Page 58)

sensations, not emotions. She scared them with her ferocity, her unlimited fury, because she was the ugliness inherent in the human spirit. To find that ugliness in a woman is even more frightening. They hated her, and were disturbed by their hatred.

The city was beginning to awaken when the men left the club. A policeman walking by did his best to ignore them. (What he didn't know wouldn't interfere with the presents the management of the illegally operated club gave him.) The men bid each other farewell and went home to shower before going to work. Though they hated Diago, they were all fascinated by her. When she next wrestled, they would be there, afraid of what they might see and awed by the spectacle.

It was another month before Diago got her next match. Few women dared to wrestle her, for each match was an ordeal. Eventually, a wrestler named Vivian asked for the chance. A woman determined to make a name for herself in the sport, she knew the best way to do this was to wrestle Diago. She also knew that the best way is never the easy way.

Vivian resembled Diago, except she was slimmer and her long blonde hair fell in waves down her back. She looked innocent, but she had lived hard enough to know that ambition was an addiction that had to be satisfied at all costs. She knew wrestling Diago was about as costly as any ambition could get.

The night of the match, the two women stood proud and tall in opposite corners of the penthouse living room. They each wore similar bikinis, making their physical likeness

Diago saps Vivian's energy with a stranglehold but will not allow her foe to slump to the floor (above). When the blonde voluntarily releases her grip and Vivian now stubbornly refuses to drop, Diago drives a knee into the helpless woman's midsection (opposite right).

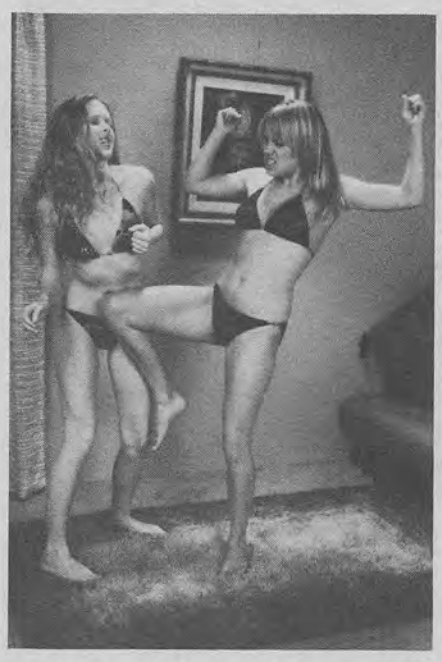
even more striking. Yet, the difference was just as striking, the difference between ambition and experience. Vivian was looking forward to something special. Diago was anticipating something she knew only too well, something not special but necessary.

The signal to begin was given. Like a cobra striking, Diago lashed out at her foe. After a swirl of arms, Vivian fell to the carpet. A foot lashed into the fallen woman's belly. Vivian instinctively contracted her body, but couldn't protect herself from the painful attack.

Yet the blonde hadn't come all this way to be humiliated. Her hands grabbed Diago's ankles and pulled. Helplessly, Diago fell crashing to the carpet. Her head cracked against the floor. For an

instant, she had to struggle to remain conscious. It was a struggle she couldn't afford to lose.

Both women had been bruised. They moved to opposite sides of the room to nurse their wounds. It only took a few seconds to marshal the concentration that would eliminate the pain. They were ready to begin again. This time, they would war with ferocity spurred by vengeance.



Again, it was Diago who struck first. Starting slowly but speeding up as she came nearer her foe, the feared blonde Amazon barreled her shoulder hard into Vivian's belly. With a ferocious physical genius, Diago wrapped her arms around her foe's waist and raised the victim high in the air. Vivian's face betrayed her terror and then her agony. Diago's incredible strength made it feel as if iron bands were encircling Vivian's waist. Strangled gasps escaped Vivian's lips as the pain grew ever more painful.

The victim's writhings saved her. The convulsive shuddering forced Diago to stumble across the carpet, trying to keep the squirming victim in her grasp.

(Continued on page 64)

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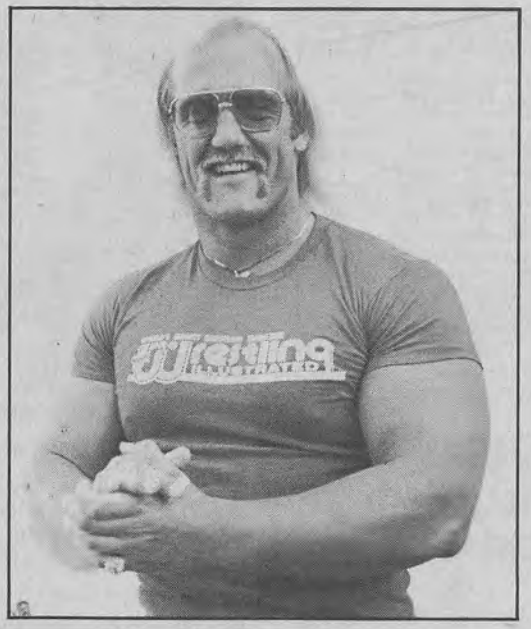

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APARTMENT WRESTLING

(Continued from Page 63)

Holding the semiconscious Vivian in place, Diago drives a savage series of left elbows into her foe's neck. The barbarous blonde may not be the most talented of apartment wrestlers, but she is undoubtedly the most cruel. The victory was not nearly as meaningful to her as the agony she inflicted on her opponent.

Not being able to see where she was careening, Diago never saw the spectator sitting in the oversized chair. When he realized the women were indeed going to crash into him, he tried to get up. Half-standing, he couldn't escape. The pair crashed into him, all falling down. When the trio disentangled, Vivian was free.

The weakened blonde appeared to be retreating, but after taking two steps backward, she attacked. Vivian's head smacked hard into Diago's waist. The victim doubled over and flipped through the air. Diago came down hard on her back. A convulsive spasm revealed her intense pain.

Vivian was on her in an instant. Trying to smother her foe, she fell with her full weight on top of Diago. Vivian wrapped her hands and legs around her victim, attempting to crush the energy out. For a long moment, it looked like Vivian would succeed.

Then, Vivian's movements grew erratic and horrifying. No one could see what was happening, but the woman was in intense pain. Her cries echoed throughout the penthouse; the expression on her face twisted horribly into a hideous mask of agony. Sandwiched between the two women's bodies were Diago's hands. What they were doing to the torso of Vivian was too terrifying for anyone to contemplate.

It was a brutal exhibition of

wrestling savagery. Vivian's body buckled and twisted in a hopeless attempt to escape her ordeal. Hidden from view, Diago's fingers were talons clawing at Vivian's flesh, expertly tearing where it hurt most. There was a primitive cunning in her movements, the same instinct that drives a lioness to kill.

Suddenly, Vivian's body flopped hard onto the carpet. Her moans were now loud and desperate. She struggled to her knees, trying somehow to get away, to escape her certain doom.

Flexing the fingers that did all the damage, Diago approached her victim. With a sureness that was as shocking as it was effective, Diago leaped on her foe's back, her knees smashing hard into Vivian's spine. The blonde victim splattered on the carpet, her face hitting hard on the floor.

Diago wasn't finished. With a twist of her hand, she grabbed Vivian's hair and jerked back the woman's head. Then, using her hair as a handle, Diago slammed Vivian's face once again into the carpet. The sickening crunch of bone into wood was muffled somewhat by the carpet, but the resulting thud was enough to make the strongest man wince. Tears streamed down Vivian's face as she sobbed quietly.

The match was over. Vivian lay where she fell, too pained to arise. Some men came over and carried her back to the bedroom. Others were too shaken to leave directly. Without waiting for applause or congratulations, Diago silently went to the bedroom, showered, dressed, and left.

Later that night, seven men drank until dawn at an after-hours club. They drank silently. There was nothing to say and everything was beyond understanding. □

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MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D., is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

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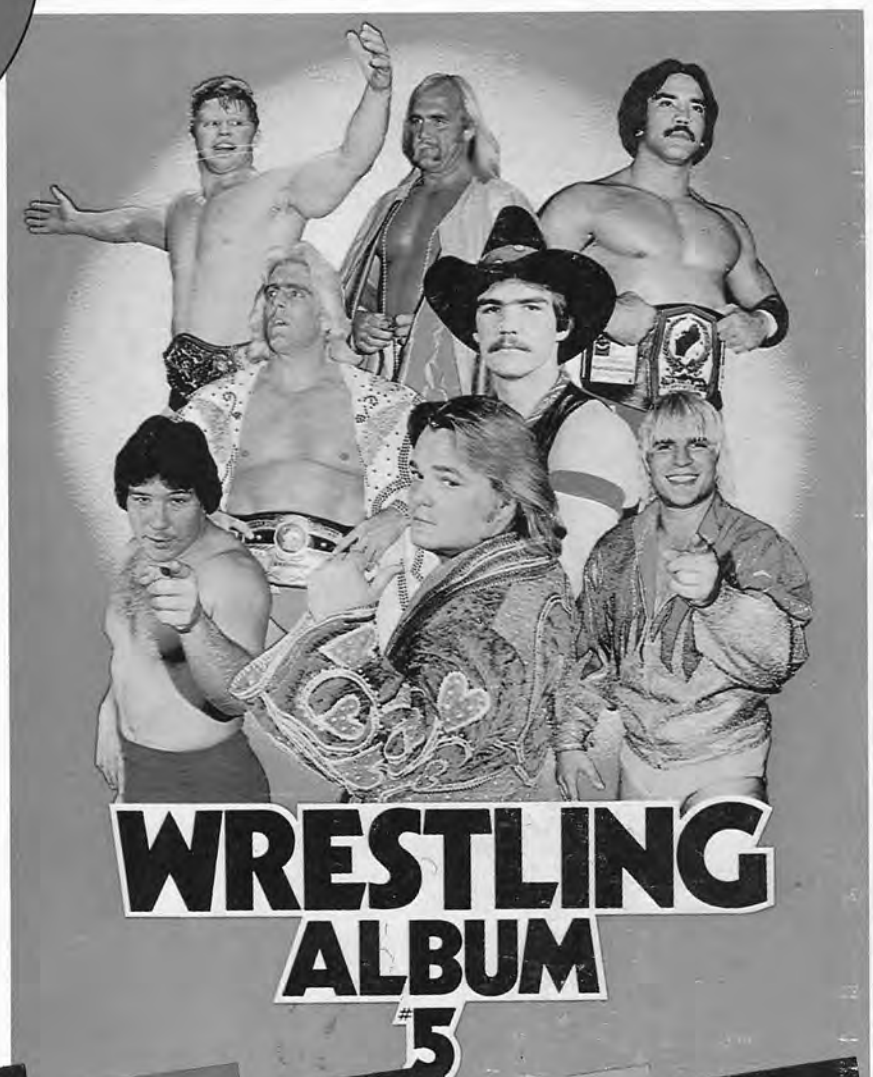

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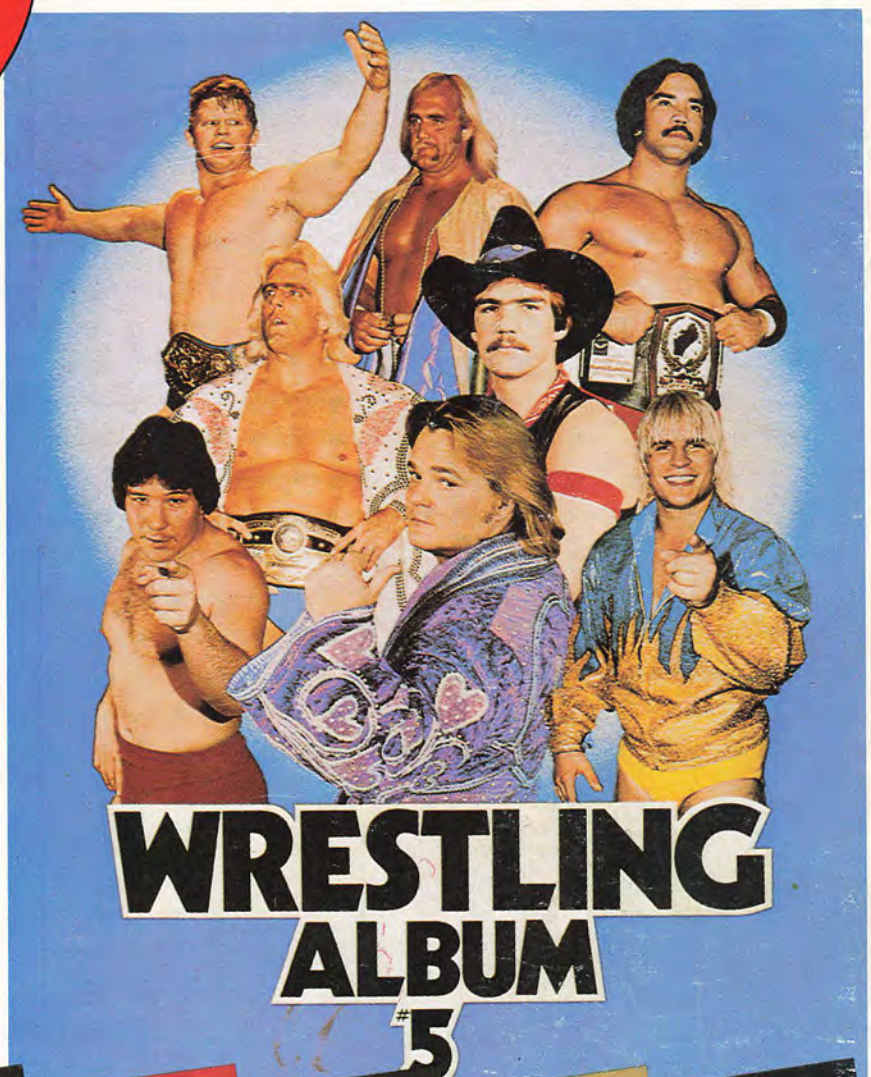
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